Probable cause found to charge driver in fatal hit-and-run. PAGE 3
Senate OKs Judiciary mold remediation bill. PAGE 9

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVIII, Issue No. 115

www.saipantribune.com | TUESDAY JUNE 12, 2018 | www.facebook.com/saipantribune

75¢

Tourist hurt in hit-and-run

This screengrab from a video of the incident shows the two women walking along Beach Road just a split second before the car behind one of the women hits her. Second screengrab shows the woman on the ground and the car that hit her speeding away.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A female tourist who was walking with a friend on the shoulder of Beach Road in southern Garapan Friday afternoon was injured when she was mowed down by a car in what police believe to be a robbery attempt.

» Car impounded, police believe it was a robbery attempt

Video of the incident taken from the surveillance camera of a nearby establishment that went viral on social media showed the victim being sideswiped by the vehicle and falling

See TOURIST on Page 4

Hundreds celebrate PH independence day

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Despite the heat and the unpredictable weather, the 120th Philippine Independence Day celebration organized by the United Filipino Organization last Sunday drew hundreds to the covered parking lot of Marianas Business Plaza.

Despite the short time organizers had to prepare for the event this year, the crowd at the 2018 *Pistang Pinoy* was undoubtedly larger and far more interactive compared to last year's *Pistang Pinoy*.

"The crowd this time is more lively because of the good show that our contestants were giving and the audience was very responsive," said United Filipino Organization president Marlon Regaton.

According to Regaton, the suc-

See Page 6 for photos

See HUNDREDS on Page 4

8-hour Guam transit waived for Pinoy CWs

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
Kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Philippine nationals may now transit for more than eight hours in Guam on a direct flight to the Philippines.

U.S Customs and Border Protection announced yesterday that all Philippine nationals who hold a CNMI-Transitional Worker Only (CW) visa may transit in Guam, on a direct itinerary to the Philippines, for up to 14 hours, which waives the eight hours allowed under the U.S Foreign Affairs Manual.

Prior to this change, Philippine nationals were allowed to transit through Guam on their way to Manila as long as transit time does not last eight hours or more. Since Unit-

See 8-HOUR on Page 4

Torres, lawmakers mum on IPI lawsuit

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Several island leaders chose to keep their opinions to themselves yesterday on the report that casino licensee Imperial Pacific International LLC has sued a New York-based business magazine, alleging defamation in its story about the casino on Saipan.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, along with Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), and Commonwealth Casino Commission vice chair Joe Reyes, opted to withhold comment on the legal action IPI took against *Bloomberg Businessweek*.

In a statement to *Saipan Tribune*, IPI also put off commenting on the "ongoing defamation or slander-type lawsuit filed in Hong Kong to the parties in that jurisdiction" while Casino Commission executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero and House

See TORRES on Page 4

INSIDE

LOCAL
The CNMI delegation at the International Thespian Festival in Nebraska gives a sneak peek.
PAGE 7

ASIA
Hope and doubt for Tuesday's historic meeting between Donald Trump and Kim Jong Un.
PAGE 16

LIFE & STYLE
The American musical "The Band's Visit" wins the most number of Tony awards.
PAGE 20

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

CLUB 88
THE BEST LITTLE GAMING CLUB IN SAIPAN
is pleased to announce
BIG PLAYER
Promotions are back!
For the month of June, a new and exciting
"SPIN AND WIN" PLAYER PROMO
with over $14,000 in cash and prizes to be won
by lucky players including
a lucky spin $5,000 cash prize.
(see the venue for details)
COME PLAY TODAY YOU COULD BE A BIG WINNER!
NOW OPEN 24 HOURS 7 DAYS A WEEK

Local

Instagram travel bloggers check out Marianas

The Marianas Visitors Authority, Brighten Travel, and other tourism partners hosted two celebrity Instagram travel bloggers on a familiarization tour on May 15-22, 2018.

Elyse Isebia has over 31,000 followers on Instagram and has published over 30 high-definition photos and two short videos on her tour. She was accompanied by photographer Serena Marie Dania, also a well-followed blogger on Instagram.

"The wide Instagram following of Elyse and Serena, coupled with their extraordinary talent for capturing the natural beauty of the locations they visit, make them ideal for covering the Marianas," said MVA marketing manager Broc Calvo. "From underwater to land to drone footage, their images are stunning and are helping promote our beautiful Marianas to their worldwide following of people interested in travel."

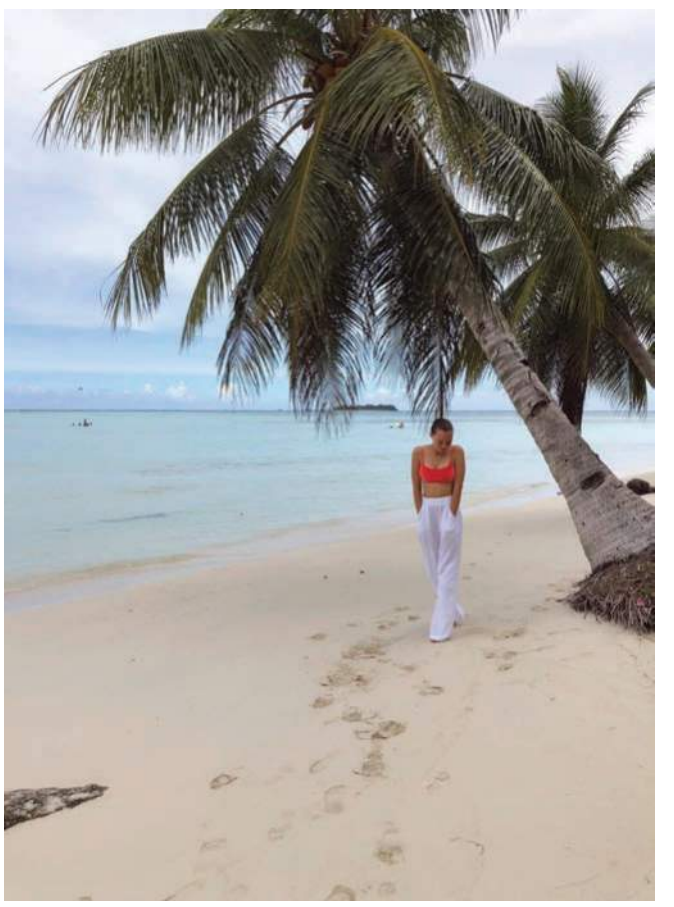


Photo shows Instagram travel blogger Elyse Isebia at Micro Beach on Saipan in May 2018. MVA

Their trip highlighted optional tours and activities like parasailing and a banana boat ride at Managaha, a hike to Forbidden Island, scuba diving, an island tour, snorkeling, paddle boarding, and kayaking. Other activities included a cultural dinner show, sunset dinner cruise, aerial tour, jungle tour, ATV tour, self-driving tours, and a visit to Godfather's Bar. Dining experiences included the Taste of the Marianas and Hard Rock Café Saipan. ***(MVA)***

SAIPAN
CREATE BEAUTY 美生堂
TOKYO SEIKATSU KAN
Loyalty Reward Card
Now available for locals!
Gain points with every purchase
and avail of discount
Terms and conditions apply.
Saipan Create Beauty I
Located next to Bubba Gump
Restaurant, Beach Road, Garapan
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.
Get a free $4 coupon
for every purchase
of $10 or more
June 18-30
Japanese favorites: chopsticks, magnets, snacks, chocolates and many more!!!
JAPAN'S Best Sellers!
SK-II
IPSA
FANCL
House amenities & Hygiene Essentials:: air-freshener, laundry detergent, soap, travel sized toiletries, toothbrush, toothpaste, sanitary napkins, tissue, etc.
Skincare & Cosmetics: face wash, moisturizer, face masks, make-up remover, anti-acne, whitening cream, sunscreen, lipstick, foundation, eye makeup, etc.
Baby Products: diapers, wipes, soap
and shampoo, toys, utensils, bottles, sippy cups, snacks, etc.
Saipan Create Beauty II
Located at the old Amigo's Pizza
Restaurant across Best Sunshine Casino,
Garapan, 10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.
OPEN DAILY! 1 (670) 488-1868 • saipantsk@gmail.com • Free-drop off to hotel may be available!

IPI settles discrimination lawsuit filed by ex-table games supervisor

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

lmperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC has settled the discrimination lawsuit filed by its former table games supervisor who claimed he has a physical disability and alleged that the company did not act on his complaint of having difficulty standing and walking for long periods of time.

At a settlement conference hearing yesterday afternoon, U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy disclosed that Imperial Pacific and Dennis Campbell, through their counsel, have been in settlement talks in the last several days with her (Kennedy) assistance.

According to the minutes of the conference, Kennedy stated that the parties have come to terms and entered into a settlement agreement.

The parties are expected to drop the case before June 21. If not, a status conference will be held on June 21 at 9am, Kennedy said.

Should the stipulation be filed before June 21, the hearing will be vacated.

Jeanne H. Rayphand, counsel for Campbell, stated they have reached settlement on all the terms and that they only have to work on typos.

Kelley Butcher, counsel for Imperial Pacific, confirmed the settlement.

Campbell, through Rayphand of the Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems Inc., is suing Imperial Pacific for violation of the American with Disabilities Act.

In his lawsuit, Campbell asked the court to issue a judgment declaring that Imperial Pacific discriminated against him on the basis of disability by failing to provide reasonable accommodation and failing to engage in an interactive process as required by ADA.

Campbell requested the court to declare that such defendant's failure constituted his constructive termination from the job.

He asked the court to find Imperial Pacific liable to pay him back pay plus interest, damages, attorney's fees and court costs.

Campbell asked the court to stop IPI from further discriminatory practices.

According to the complaint, when Campbell told his supervisor that he was having difficulty standing and walking for long periods of time, the management informed him that the Family and Medical Leave Act would be his best course of action.

Rayphand said the management took no action to identify a reasonable accommodation or to engage in an interactive process to determine whether a reasonable accommodation could be provided.

Rayphand said that Campbell was compelled to resign on June 3, 2016.

Imperial Pacific has denied the allegations.

Probable cause found to charge driver in fatal hit-and-run

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Wesley Bogdan has found probable cause to warrant the filing of six charges against the driver of a sports utility vehicle allegedly involved in a hit-and-run case that killed a pedestrian in As Mahetog last April 1.

At a preliminary hearing last week, Bogdan found probable cause to charge David Desebel Kapileo with homicide by vehicle, driving while under the influence of alcohol, reckless driving, speeding, failure to maintain lane, and leaving the scene of accident.

Bogdan ordered the 50-year-old Kapileo to respond the charges.

At the hearing, assistant attorney general Jonathan Robert Glass Jr. called one witness, Police Sgt. Norris Kwon.

The Office of the Public Defender is counsel for Kapileo.

The arraignment was set for yesterday.

Police arrested Kapileo last May 28. He is currently detained at the Department of Corrections for failing to post a $100,000 cash bond.

The victim, a 38-year-old Chinese male, was hit by the sports utility vehicle at the intersection of Chalan Pale Arnold Road and As Mahetog near the Saipan Ice and Water Co. last April 1.

The victim was pronounced dead at the Commonwealth Health Center that same day at 9:45pm.

Police said that, according to a witness, after the SUV hit the victim, the driver kept driving south, then reportedly made a left turn on Mihaville in Garapan. Police found the SUV seven hours later.

Kapileo is a habitual offender and has been arrested several times since being released on a murder conviction.

Kapileo fatally shot his mother with a gun at their house in Garapan in December1992, according to court records.

QQ RENT A CAR
Starting as low as... $29.99
for a 3rd Party Insurance
Call: 233-8855, 483-8866 or 233-8866
$100 Security Deposit Required
Garapan • Susupe
Some conditions may apply

Fee waivers for NMC info session participants

Individuals who participate in the Northern Marianas College's upcoming information session will qualify to have their application fee and their placement test fees waived for NMC's upcoming fall 2018 semester, a savings of about $75.

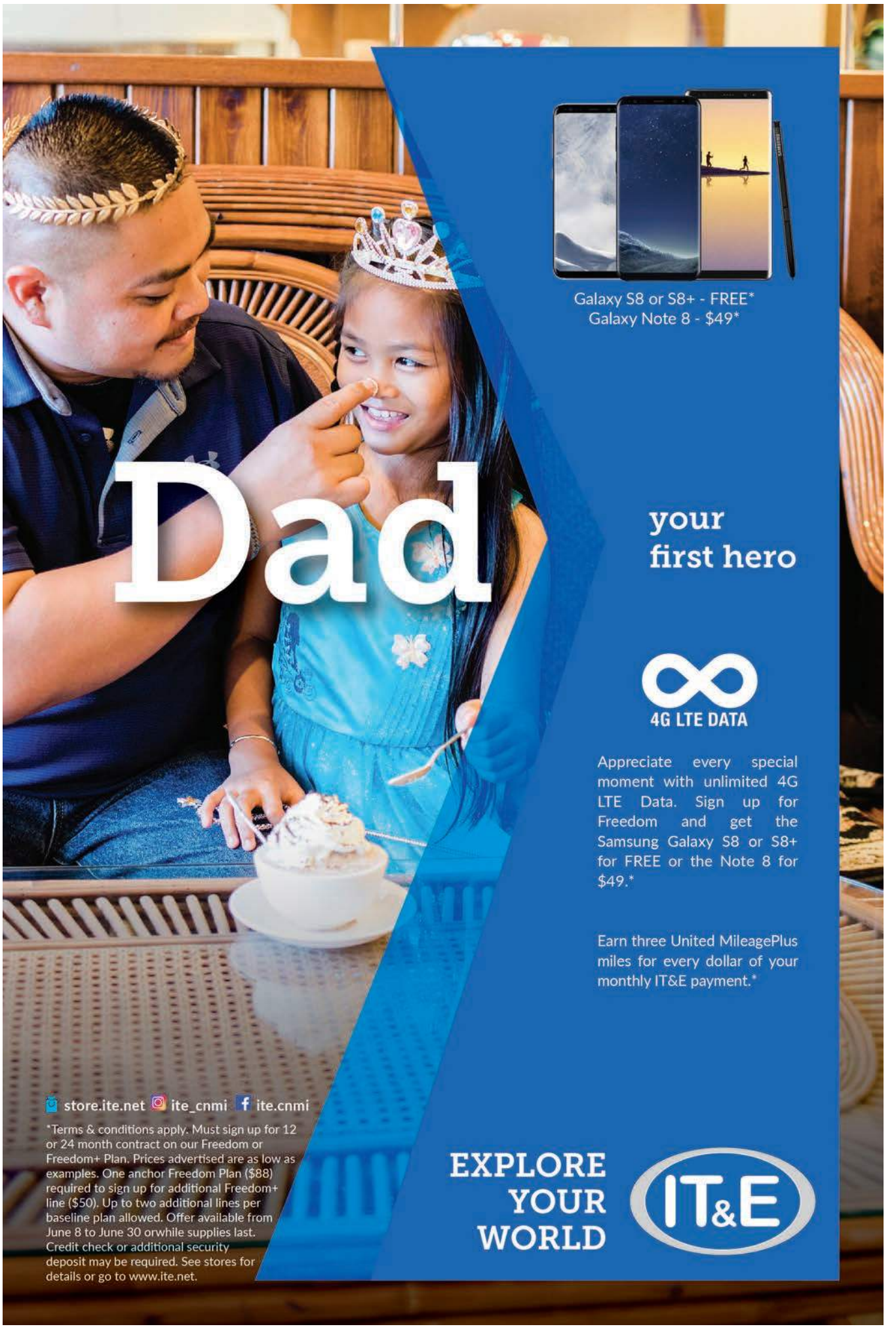
The information session, which is open to all prospective students and interested community members, will be held on Thursday, June 14, 2018, from 5:30pm to 6:30pm in NMC's Cafe Proa at the college's As Terlaje campus.

NMC faculty, staff, and students from the different degree programs at NMC, as well as Student Services representatives from counseling, financial aid, and admissions will be on hand to answer questions, including the degree programs offered at the college, financial aid options, and other college initiatives.

The Office of Admission and Records will be present that evening to accept and register students who are interested in registering for the upcoming fall 2018 semester.

The college offers several degree and certificate programs, including a bachelor of science degree in education (emphasis in elementary education, early childhood education, special education, or rehabilitation and human services), bachelor of science degree in business management (emphasis in accounting); associate of arts degree in business, associate of applied science degrees in business administration (emphasis in accounting, business management, or computer applications), associate of arts in liberal arts (emphasis in education, health and physical education, and social work), associates of science in nursing, natural resources management, associate of applied science in criminal justice, and hospitality management.

For more information about the information session and/or applying to NMC, contact the Office of Admissions & Records at (670) 237-6770, email oar@marianas.edu or visit www.marianas.edu. ***(PR)***


Galaxy S8 or S8+ - FREE*
Galaxy Note 8 - $49*
Dad
your first hero
4G LTE DATA
Appreciate every special moment with unlimited 4G LTE Data. Sign up for Freedom and get the Samsung Galaxy S8 or S8+ for FREE or the Note 8 for $49.*
Earn three United MileagePlus miles for every dollar of your monthly IT&E payment.*
store.ite.net ite_cnmi ite.cnmi
*Terms & conditions apply. Must sign up for 12 or 24 month contract on our Freedom or Freedom+ Plan. Prices advertised are as low as examples. One anchor Freedom Plan ($88) required to sign up for additional Freedom+ line ($50). Up to two additional lines per baseline plan allowed. Offer available from June 8 to June 30 orwhile supplies last. Credit check or additional security deposit may be required. See stores for details or go to www.ite.net.
EXPLORE YOUR WORLD
IT&E

Hyatt hosts Mabuhay Night buffet tomorrow

Hyatt Regency Saipan will join the Filipino community in celebrating the 120th Philippine Independence Day with its Mabuhay Night buffet dinner this Wednesday at the Kili Café and Terrace.

Assistant marketing communications manager Claudine Camacho said the Garapan landmark has been celebrating Philippine Independence Day the past decade and this year is no exception.

"This is for our Filipino friends here on Saipan. Thank you for helping us grow our economy," she said, adding that a lot of their hardworking staff are also Filipinos and Mabuhay Night is also in honor of them.

Kili Café's own outlet manager, Althea Baltazar-Capati, is a Filipino herself and, with the rest of the hotel's Filipino staff, has been integral to Hyatt's success throughout the years.

"I'm really excited [for Mabuhay Night] as I really love Filipino food," she said, adding that members of the United Filipino Organization will get a 20-percent discount for Wednesday evening's Filipino buffet.

Hyatt executive sous chef Zen Tomakane said he and his staff had a great time brainstorming about the dishes and are excited to prepare a gastronomic feast of Filipino food for Mabuhay Night.

Hyatt Regency Saipan executive sous chef Zen Tomakane, center, poses with two of his staff with the desserts they prepared for the Mabuhay Night dinner buffet at the Kili Café & Terrace.
DONNA RIVERA

Filipino cuisine staples like paella and sisig are just some of the delectable dishes that will be served during Mabuhay Night.
DONNA RIVERA

"When you think about food around the world you think of the popular dishes and you always want to be comforted. What I love about Filipino food is that it's all comfort food," he said.

Tomokane echoed Camacho that Hyatt is holding Mabuhay Night as a toast to Filipinos on island.

"Why is the Hyatt doing this? Because we are part of the community…and we want to celebrate Philippine Independence Day. It's a perfect time to celebrate this," he added.

The one-day only Mabuhay Night buffet dinner will be held at Kili Café & Terrace beginning 6:30pm tomorrow night.

The cultural buffet will feature Filipino specialties like galanting manok, atcharang papaya, bulalo, pancit palabok, seafood kare-kare, laing, lechon liempo, and halo-halo, just to name a few of the popular, ethnic cuisines from the Philippines. It will include free-flowing beer, iced-tea, and red and white wines.

As an added treat, Saipan Music and Dance Company will perform cultural song and dances at the hotel lobby and at the Kili Café & Terrace outlet.

The price for the Mabuhay Night dinner buffet is $60 per person and $40 for Club at the Hyatt members. Dinner will be served from 6pm to 9pm. Reservations are highly recommended. Call 234-1234 ext. 26 for more information. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

TOURIST

From Page 1

to the ground.

Saipan Tribune learned that the incident happened as the two female Chinese tourists were walking north near the Mascot Auto Parts.

Department of Public Safety spokesperson Jacqueline Rae Shepard said yesterday that their highway patrol investigators are aware of the incident and are working on the case.

Shepard said police does not have a lot of information about this case as it is still under investigation.

Shepard said the victim was taken to the Commonwealth Health Center for minor injuries.

Shepard said the vehicle has been impounded.

"I have no word on the suspects yet. However, investigators believe the incident began as a purse snatching that ended in a hit-and-run," she said.

Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services spokesperson Derek Gersonde said yesterday that DFEMS received a call from DPS 911 at 1:18pm, requesting for an ambulance on Beach Road, Garapan.

When DFEMS medics from the Garapan Fire Station arrived at the scene, they came upon a conscious 25-year-old woman sitting on the side of the road. The victim was complaining of pain on her right arm. She sustained abrasions on the left side arm.

Emergency medical technicians used a cervical collar and spine board to prevent further injuries on the victim. She was then brought to CHC's emergency room at 1:40pm.

Gersonde, who said it was difficult to obtain information from the victim due to the language barrier, quoted the victim's female friend as saying that they were walking on the side of the road when a car traveling north toward western Garapan hit her.

The video showed the two tourists walking side by side going north when the car that was also heading north swerved a little bit to the side of the road and hit the victim from the back.

The victim fell on her back. The car did not stop.

TORRES

From Page 1

Speaker Rafael Demapan (R-Saipan) did not respond to *Saipan Tribune*'s request for comment.

According to media reports, IPI filed the lawsuit in Hong Kong against the magazine on the ground of defamation of character. The High Court of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region's Court of First Instance reportedly issued a writ of summons for *Bloomberg* as its main defendant and reporters Matthew Campbell and K Oanh Ha as second and third defendants.

The lawsuit stems from a Feb. 15, 2018, *Bloomberg* story titled, "A Chinese Casino Has Conquered a Piece of America," suggesting impropriety on the part of IPI and that IPI has been engaged in improper relationships with Torres and several members of his family, among many other allegations.

According to a Feb. 18, 2018 statement from IPI repudiating the story, it stated that the article was just one of many "false claims similar to other…*Bloomberg* articles involving Imperial Pacific."

In a Feb. 20, 2018 statement from IPI, it announced that it would be pursuing legal action against the magazine.

Bloomberg, in a March 14, 2018, report, said the casino was raided by the Federal Bureau of Investigation early that month, which the company denied in a March 15, 2018 statement after "having made all reasonable inquiries."

Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) told *Saipan Tribune* that he looks forward to the case as IPI now has to "show its cards."

"If they feel they were wronged…they should pursue legal action. It is within their right. I look forward to what comes of it," Propst told *Saipan Tribune*. "If [IPI] believes [the articles] are defamatory and they could prove it, then that is part of the [justice] process."

Propst was quoted in *Bloomberg*'s Feb. 15, 2018 piece.

HUNDREDS

From Page 1

cess of this year's celebration was due to the support of the entire community.

"UFO would not have any successful events without… everyone, especially our *kababayans* [compatriots] who keep participating. …It is not about what was prepared, it's about the response and the participation," he said.

One of highlight of this year's *Pistang Pinoy* was a song and dance competition. The twist to the singing competition was the age limit that was implemented. Only those aged 50 and over were allowed to participate.

UFO also included a free health screening, which turned out to be a hit, gaining the participation of both Filipinos and non-Filipinos.

Regaton said they had a good number of health screening participants and those who availed of the free haircuts UFO offered. "We were able to list down over 50 participants from 8am to 11am," he said.

The actual date of Philippine Independence Day is today, June 12.

8-HOUR

From Page 1

ed Airlines only has a morning flight between Saipan and Guam and the connecting flight to Manila only occurs at night, that meant Philippine nationals going to Manila would have stayed in Guam for more than eight hours. That would have meant Philippine nationals with CW visas would be unable to pass through Guam on their way to Manila. The new rule changes that.

According to a CBP source, the discretionary waiver for Philippine nationals transiting in Guam on a CW visa was forwarded to their office here on Saipan on Saturday, June 4.

Philippine nationals with CW visas are still not allowed to exit the Antonio B. Won Pat Guam International Airport while waiting for their next flight to the Philippines.

Upon reaching out to their office, CBP informed the *Saipan Tribune* that they are not permitted to release any more information the matter to the public until further notice.

The Foreign Affairs Manual states that all CNMI-Only Transitional Workers visa holders are not permitted to transit in any part of the United States, with the exemption of Philippine nationals.

Due to recent events leading to massive cuts to the CW visa program, a large number of immigrant workers may be required to exit the CNMI.

Since U.S. immigration laws were extended to the CNMI back in 2005, immigrant workers were slapped with a stricter set of rules and guidelines that touched base on benefits and restrictions that comes with an immigrant worker status. One of the restrictions was transiting on U.S. soil.

According to 9 FAM 402.18-3(E), CW Classification Valid Only for Travel to/use in the CNMI, a CW-1 visa is valid only for travel to the CNMI and the holder is not authorized to travel or transit on U.S. ground, with the exception of Filipino CW visa holders

"CW visa is valid only for travel to the CNMI. An alien with CW status or traveling on a CW visa may neither travel to nor transit any other part of the United States… An alien who is a national of the Philippines traveling on a CW visa may travel from the Philippines through the Guam airport in direct transit to the CNMI on a direct itinerary with a stopover or connection in Guam (and no other place) lasting no longer than eight hours," it said.

The manual states that any other nationality, if not Filipino, cannot transit through Guam (or any U.S. territory) on a CW visa and Filipino CW holders may only remain on Guam no more than eight hours, which has been waived.

Because Filipino CW holders are restricted to an eight-hour transit period, they were encouraged to consider other routes when going back to the Philippines in the event that they are required to go home.

Other options Philippine national CW holders were encouraged to look into were booking their flights home with Asiana Airlines, Jeju Air, or Hong Kong Express. That way, they won't have to go through Guam where they cannot stay in transit for eight hours.

These alternate airlines could cost a bit more, depending on the season and amount of stopovers, than United Airlines. Fortunately, thanks to the discretionary waiver, it would ensure that Filipino CW visa holders do not face any federal altercations and do not breach U.S. immigration guidelines.

100 DAYS OF Summer SAVINGS

AK SINCE 1914 SIGNATURE USED CARS

BROWSE OUR INVENTORY AT AKSAIPAN.COM

Call me NAUM VEKHOV @ 234-5911

2016 Kia Rio LS
4-Doors, 4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Silver, STK#U18-036T
NOW $9,699*

2013 Prius C
4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Gray, STK#R18-013F
NOW $7,399*

2014 Toyota Yaris, FWD
FWD, Auto, Gray, STK#R18-003F
WAS $14,999
NOW $12,999*

2015 Mazda 3 iSport
4-Door, 4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Gray, STK#U18-033T
WAS $13,999
NOW $13,399*

2016 Yaris
5-Door HB, 4-cy, Auto, FWD, Red, STK#U18-043R
NOW $13,699*

2007 FJ Cruiser, V6
Manual, 6-spd, 4WD, Red, Mileage 60,105, STK#U17-133T
WAS $17,599
NOW $14,999*

2016 Prius C
4-cyl, Hybrid, Auto, FWD, White, Mileage 21,972 STK#U18-019R
NOW $15,999*

2016 Corolla LE
FWD, Auto, 4DR Sedan, Red, STK#R18-006F
WAS $18,699
NOW $15,999*

2016 Prius C
4-cyl, Hybrid, Auto, FWD, Blue, Mileage 17,334 STK#U18-017R
NOW $16,199*

2016 Corolla LE 4-DR sedan
4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Green, Mileage 28,773, STK#R18-004F
WAS $18,499
NOW $16,999*

2016 Scion iM
HB, 4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Blue, Mileage 25,938, STK#U18-021R
NOW $18,699*

2016 Scion IM
4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Silver, Mileage 12,937 STK#U18-022R
NOW $18,699*

2016 Corolla LE
4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Red, STK#R18-014F
NOW $18,899*

2017 Corolla LE
4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Black, STK#R18-015F
NOW $20,899*

2016 Camry LE
4-Dr, 4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Silver, Mileage 24,399, STK#U18-028R
NOW $22,599*

2013 4Runner SR5
4WD, V-6, Auto, Red, STK#U17-134T
WAS $27,699
NOW $23,999*

2014 Tacoma 2WD, DC
4-cyl, Auto, Gray, STK#U17-139T
WAS $26,899
NOW $25,499*

2015 Highlander LE Sport
4-cyl, Auto, 2WD, Pearl White, STK#U17-135P
WAS $29,399
NOW $23,999*

2012 4Runner Trail Edition
Mileage 30,438, V6, Auto, 4WD, Gray, STK#U17-096P
WAS $34,999
NOW $24,999*

2016 Highlander LE SUV
4-Cyl, Auto, 2WD, Silver, STK#U17-108R
WAS $30,599*
NOW $25,999*

2013 4Runner SR5
V6, Auto, 4WD, Gray, Mileage 46,113 STK#U18-013T
NOW $28,199*

2016 Sienna, V6
Auto, FWD, White, Mileage 33,929, STK#U18-010L
WAS $30,499
NOW $28,499*

2013 Tacoma
DC, V6, Auto, 4WD, Red, STK#U18-038T
NOW $30,299*

2015 Nissan Xterra
Pro-4X, V6, Auto, 4WD, Red, STK#U18-035T
NOW $30,299*

2017 Tacoma DC, SR
4-cyl, Auto, 2WD, White, Mileage 20,234, STK#R18-012F
NOW $30,999*

*On approved credit. Conditions apply. See dealer for details. Fees not included. Mileage may vary.

LARGEST Used Car Inventory on island! CHECK OUT OUR NEW LISTING OF USED CARS AT www.AKsaipan.com. VISIT US TODAY!

AK SINCE 1914

Atkins Kroll (Saipan), Inc.
#1 Chalan Msr Guerrero San Jose
Saipan, MP 96950

Call 234-5911
Showroom Hours: Monday to Friday 8 am to 5 pm
Saturday Hours 8 am to 5 pm

SEE YOUR AK APPROVAL EXPERTS

HERE FOR SAIPAN. HERE FOR LIFE.

Browse our online showroom - Visit: www.AKsaipan.com

Pistang Pinoy 2018

PHOTOS By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

Members of the United Filipino Organization pose for a photo during the annual *Pistang Pinoy* last Sunday at the Marianas Business Plaza's parking area.

The Batang Filipino group performs the traditional Filipino dance tinikling during the annual Pistang Pinoy last Sunday at the Marianas Business Plaza's parking area.

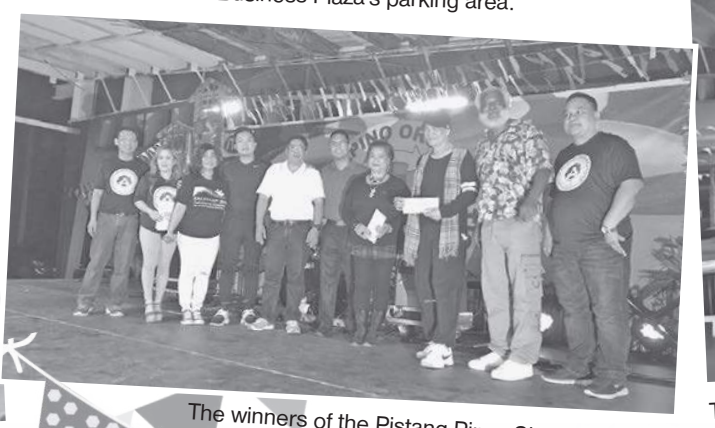
Gov. Ralph DLG Torres gives his inspirational remarks during the annual *Pistang Pinoy* last Sunday at the Marianas Business Plaza's parking area.

The Batang Filipino group performs traditional Filipino dances during the annual *Pistang Pinoy* last Sunday at the Marianas Business Plaza's parking area.

Glicerio Arago, honorary Philippine consul to the CNMI, gives his opening remarks during the annual *Pistang Pinoy* last Sunday at the Marianas Business Plaza's parking area.

The Batang Filipino group performs traditional Filipino dances during the annual *Pistang Pinoy* last Sunday at the Marianas Business Plaza's parking area.

Hundreds of Filipinos gather to watch the dance competition during the annual *Pistang Pinoy* last Sunday at the Marianas Business Plaza's parking area.



The winners of the Pistang Pinoy Singing Competition pose for a photo during the annual *Pistang Pinoy* last Sunday at the Marianas Business Plaza's parking area.

The winners of the *Pistang Pinoy* Dance Competition pose for a photo during the annual *Pistang Pinoy* last Sunday at the Marianas Business Plaza's parking area.

Gov.Ralph DLG Torres poses for a photo with members of the Filipino community during the annual *Pistang Pinoy* last Sunday at the Marianas Business Plaza's parking area.

CNMI thespians all set for Nebraska performance

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Marianas High School's Glee Club Rhythm 'N Harmony will be leading the more than 20-member CNMI delegation's campaign at this year's International Thespian Festival from June 25 to 30 in Lincoln, Nebraska.

The event will be hosted by University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The same university will host the event for the last time next year before it moves to Indiana University in Bloomington in 2020.

International Thespian Society chapter director Harold Easton said the annual festival gives students the chance to showcase their talents in theatre arts and other musical categories.

"There will be lots of activities in Nebraska. There will be workshops and plays, and auditions for juniors and seniors for them to earn scholarships in drama schools in the United States," said Easton.

Rhythm 'N Harmony members and the entire CNMI delegation gave a sneak peek last Sunday at the American Memorial Park theater of what they will be performing in Nebraska.

Rhythm 'N Harmony performed *He Lives In You* from the musical *The Lion King* while a separate group presented the short comedy *The Internet is Distract_____*.

JON PEREZ

Members of the CNMI delegation to the International Thespian Festival in Lincoln, Nebraska perform their piece on Sunday at the American Memorial Park theater.

Oh Look, a Kitten! by Ian McWethy about a young woman who needs to do her homework but got distracted by the Internet.

The other students on the team are from Grace Christian Academy, Kagman High School, and Saipan Southern High School.

"This is a chance for these students to have a shot and they are going to give their best. It is nice for them to show it to an audience before they head to Nebraska," said Easton, who will leave the CNMI for Nebraska on Thursday while the rest of the delegation leaves next week.

Easton is also the president of the Western Pacific Region-National Forensic League with Angela Wheat, who is one of the board members and also coaches the students.

Rhythm 'N Harmony is a five-time champion at the Tumon Bay Music Festival, including three straight wins from 2015 to 2017. They also placed second in the musical category at the 2012 Thespian nationals.

The other members of the delegation won in different categories in competitions held in the CNMI. This will be the 11th year that the CNMI will be competing at the nationals where they will join more than 2,000 students in Nebraska.

Intro to recovery and peer support

The Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems Inc., in collaboration with Peerlink National Technical Assistance Center, will be hosting an Introduction to Recovery and Peer Support training.

Peerlink works to strengthen the capacity and infrastructure of peer-run programs and traditional mental health organizations.

These sessions are open to all who are interested about the topics of recovery and peer support, including family members, and providers.

The conversation on recovery talks about perceptions and ideals around mental health and addiction recovery.

Recovery from mental disorders and/or substance abuse disorders is a process of change through which individuals may improve their health and wellness, live a self-directed life, and strive to achieve their full potential.

The discussion then moves to peer support, services run by people who personal experience living with psychiatric disabilities and/or addictions. Peers understand how it can affect every aspect of living, including one's hope for the future.

The training for Saipan will be held on Monday, June 11, 2018 from 6pm to 9pm at the Northern Marianas College, Room A-4.

The Rota training will be on Thursday, June 14 from 9am to 12pm at the Northern Marianas College-Rota, Room A-1.

These sessions are open to all who are interested about the topics of recovery and peer support, including peers, family members, and providers.

For more information about recovery and peer support, contact the PAIMI program through NMPASI at 235-7273 or 235-7274. ***(PR)***

SPC staff support victims of Pacific disasters

NOUMEA, New Caledonia—Last Friday, Colin Tukuitonga, director-general of the Pacific Community, handed 705,840 Pacific francs, collected from all SPC staff in New Caledonia and Fiji, over to the French Red Cross.

The funds will contribute to the reconstruction efforts of countries recently hit by natural disasters in the region (Fiji, Papua New Guinea, and Tonga). The funds were handed over to Michel Rigot, president of the French Red Cross in New Caledonia. They will be equally shared between the Red Cross societies of impacted countries.

"I commend SPC staff in Nouméa and Suva who have raised funds, on top of their day jobs, as a sign of solidarity; and the Red Cross for the work beyond reproach they are doing in the region," Tukuitonga said.

"Rest assured that these resources will be used until the last CFP franc for the best of impacted communities. The French Red Cross in New Caledonia is committed to work at the regional level and will dispatch resources on the ground," Rigot said.

SPC staff has contributed to this disaster fundraising through donations, food stalls, and a charity event. SPC Social Club called for donations after a cyclone hit Fiji and Tonga and after an earthquake occurred in Papua New Guinea. ***(SPC)***

IMPERIAL PALACE
SAIPAN
博华皇宫·塞班

RECRUITMENT DAY

Date: 15 Jun 2018 (Friday)
Time: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Venue: Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan,
Banquet Hall - Azucena

www.imperialpacificsaipan.com

**Interested in building your career in the service industry?
Imperial Pacific invites intelligent and talented elite in the hospitality to join our growing family for a life-changing opportunity!**

Table Games		**Gaming Technical Service**	
Dealer Trainee	30	Technician	2
Part-time Dealer	20		
		Information Technology	
Cage & Count		Technician, Digital Media	1
Cage Cashier	15		
Surveillance			
Surveillance Operator	2		

Imperial Pacific offers exciting career opportunities as well as first-rate compensation and benefit packages.

To apply, please visit imperialpaccareer.com
To schedule your priority interview, please contact us at +1 (670) 237-9901 during office hours from Monday to Friday between 9:00 am to 5:00pm or
by email: careers@bestsunshinesaipan.com before 14 Jun.

This Company is an equal opportunity employer dedicated to a policy of nondiscrimination in employment, regardless of a person's sex, sexual orientation, race, color, religion, national origin, age or disability.

All data collected will be kept confidential and used for recruitment purposes only

www.imperialpaccareer.com

‘Environmental preservation needs youth involvement’

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Getting their peers involved in helping conserve the environment is what Genzo Matua Suzuki Gonzales and Kaya Rasa are hoping to do as they prepare to join a two-week environmental summit from June 17 to July 1 in Palau.

Gonzales, 16, and Rasa, 12, helped organize last Saturday’s inaugural 3-kilometer March for the Oceans event as part of the International March for the Oceans. June 9 was also the World Ocean’s Day and the International Year of the Reef.

“This march is dedicated to World Ocean Day, which is also being celebrated in the U.S. mainland. We strongly take part in taking care of our ocean because, as Chamorros and Carolinians, we are a seafaring people. We look to the ocean as our way of life,” said Gonzales, who, together with Rasa, form part of the 2018 Heirs to the Ocean, an international group.

They believe that protecting the environment, especially the oceans, is a task their generation must take up.

“Having events where we all gather and talk about the things that we want to change is one way of getting our peers to be involved more. Like ocean debris, many of our trash washes ashore in places like Saipan,” said Gonzales.

“It is good to have our youth be engaged by having different meetings and gatherings… so that we can…help preserve our oceans. This is something that Kaya and I started, and this will be an annual thing.”

JON PEREZ

Participants of last Saturday’s March for the Ocean head toward the Atkins Kroll Toyota intersection for the 3-kilometer walk from Guma Sakman at the Susupe Beach Park.

Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance executive director Roberta Guerrero said they supported the event after Gonzales and Rasa reached out to them. “We’re very honored to be part of this. We thank Genzo and Kaya for organizing this. They are the next generation of our community leaders. They are youth leaders that are going to step up and save the planet, more importantly our little patch in the CNMI.”

“Being Heirs to the Ocean, their focus is on awareness of our resources in the oceans. For the March for the Ocean, they [Gonzales and Rasa] did all the planning and getting all the groups together. MINA, as part of the environmental community, is proud to support this program,” added Guerrero.

Rasa said she and and Gonzales plan to be at the forefront in organizing events like this to help promote environmental awareness and “give everyone the message in protecting our oceans, protecting our oceans and keeping our islands clean. We would like to pass down the message for everyone to be aware of what’s happening to our islands and our oceans.”

Yarawa Ythemar, a former Heir to the Ocean member, has passed the task to Gonzales and Rasa for 2018.

“We’re going to Palau to learn about the environment and how we can help preserve it. Then come back here and share it with our peers. The youth summit is in Micronesia and it will be about environmental preservation, and the different battles and problems that our oceans face,” said Gonzales.

Napu Outrigger Club coach Ponce Rasa, who is Kaya’s father, said they also support the effort to protect the ocean. “This is our largest resource and we must do our share in taking care of it.”

Members of Napu’s junior team, which won the junior mixed events gold in last year’s Micro Cup in Guam, participated in Saturday’s March for the Oceans, as well as others that used six- and single-person canoes, and stand up paddles. Northern Marianas Athletics is also part of the support group.

JON PEREZ

Organizers and participants of last Saturday’s March for the Ocean pose for a group photo after the 3-kilometer walk from Guma Sakman to Atkins-Kroll intersection.

IPI’s ‘Village Pride Project’ revitalizes Tanapag social hall

The second phase of the “Village Pride Project” of Imperial Pacific’s International LLC’s Corporate Social Responsibility program continue to breathe new life to the island’s public facilities.

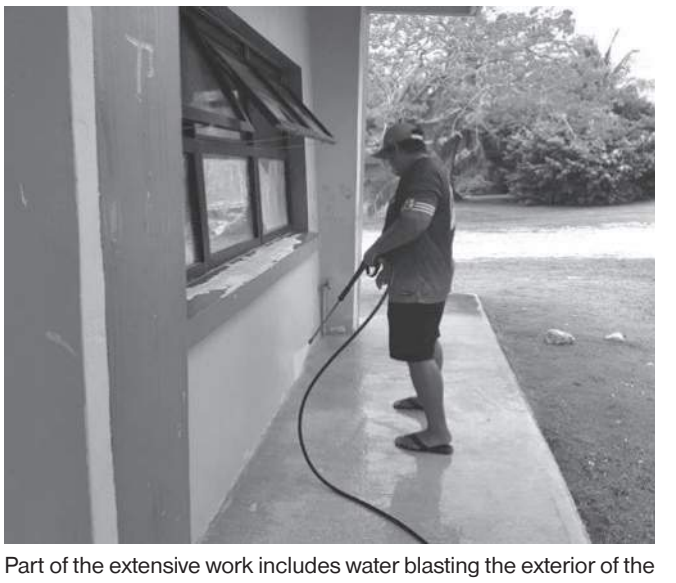
The IPI-CSR team, under this signature environmental and community beautification initiative, recently worked to revitalize the Tanapag social hall.

Imperial Pacific International LLC’s Corporate Social Responsibility staff apply a fresh coat of white paint to the Tanapag social hall.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The old paint coat of the Tanapag social hall is scraped off before new paint is applied.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Imperial Pacific International LLC’s Corporate Social Responsibility staff does some trim work.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The work includes the rooftop that had accumulated dirt.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Part of the extensive work includes water blasting the exterior of the building before a new paint is applied.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Senate OKs Judiciary mold remediation bill

The CNMI Senate has unanimously supported a bipartisan compromise that included funding for the Judiciary's mold remediation and air-conditioning purchase.

Rep. Angel Demapan's (R-Saipan) House Bill 20-164 sailed through the Senate with a vote of 7-0 in its favor last Wednesday. Sen. Justo Quitugua (Ind-Saipan) and Sen. Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) were absent.

H.B. 20-164 appropriates $15 million for different projects in the CNMI, including $7 million for the Judiciary to resolve its mold problem and to purchase new air-conditioning units. The combination of problems caused the Judiciary's building, the Guma Hustisia, to close in mid-March 2018.

Previous Senate amendments, which included cutting a $700,000 appropriation for the Sugar Dock rebuilding project to only $200,000, plunged the legislation into conference committee negotiations after the House rejected the amendments in a previous session.

House conferee chair Rep. John Paul Sablan (R-Saipan) said that Saipan would now receive about $1.7 million, including the restoration of the Sugar Dock rebuilding funding back to $700,000. Tinian and Rota would be allocated $1.2 million each.

H.B. 20-164 also includes payment to private telecommunications company Docomo Pacific. The company is allocated a total of $815,000 for the connection of Rota and Tinian to their fiber optic cable.

With the Senate unanimously adopting the conference committee recommendation, the House would also need to pass the conference committee report before the bill goes to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for enactment.

Neither the House nor Senate may propose amendments to the conference committee report and may only vote on its adoption as a whole. ***(Erwin Encinares)***

Judiciary wants 39 more employees

The Judiciary has reaffirmed its need to add more probation officers and court marshals.

During a budget hearing of the House Ways and Means Committee on Capital Hill last Friday, Judiciary representatives outlined their need for additional manpower in explaining their budget request of $15 million for fiscal year 2019.

Committee chair Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) said that Gov. Ralph DLG Torres had proposed a little over $7 million for the Judiciary.

"We are going to have to look at what they requested," said Demapan, adding that the Judiciary had talked about hiring 39 more. "I don't know if that is something we can accommodate in its entirety. We have to look at the priorities of the Judiciary."

According to Sonia Camacho, the director of Courts, 14 of the 39 new positions would be for probation officers. "The majority of the [new positions] are for law enforcement: 14 for the Probation Office, 10 for the Court Marshal Services, three for Drug Court, one for the Law Revision Commission, and the rest are for the Office of the Clerk of Drug Court operations on Rota and Saipan," she said.

The Judiciary currently has 12 probation officers, Camacho said, 10 of them locally funded, while the other two are federally funded.

"The [Court Marshal Services] currently has eight on board," she said. Rota and Tinian have one marshal each; the remaining six are on Saipan.

Demapan said if the funding for the 14 new positions could not be found, his committee would review the needs of the Probation Office to determine a "number feasible for them to continue meeting the mandate of that office."

"They have 2,600 cases; of that, 1,600 are active," said Demapan, citing data obtained from Friday's discussion. The Judiciary said the ratio of probation officers to cases is at 100:1.

"The ratio is…much higher than the rest of the nation, so that is something that we are going to definitely look at here… There are a lot of components within the Judiciary, so it is not just looking at one activity and making [a] determination," added Demapan.

In fiscal year 2018, the Judiciary asked for $8.3 million; Torres proposed a budget of $5.9 million. It eventually got over $6.6 million. ***(Erwin Encinares)***

ARC has you covered this June

ADVERTISING Feature

From Father's Day to Independence Day, Aqua Resort Club Saipan has got you covered for upcoming special occasions in June. Throughout the month, Aqua Resort Club is featuring various promotions for its hotel and restaurants.

Treat that special someone to a staycation! Aqua Resort Club is offering an exclusive "Local Staycation Package." Benefits include a 20-percent discount coupon that is valid at all food and beverage outlets throughout your stay, a 40-percent discount coupon on all treatments at the ARC Spa, and access to all amenities including ARC's family pool, diving pool, jacuzzi, fitness center, and sauna. Book today for just $150 (plus 15 percent government tax). Offer valid until June 30, 2018.

Today, June 12, Aqua Resort Club will join the celebration of the 120th Philippine Independence Day at its Costa Terrace Restaurant, where the lunch buffet will feature a spread of all your Filipino favourites. Aqua Resort Club will also have a traditional Filipino dance performance by Saipan Music & Dance Studio at 12:30pm. Special lunch is available from 11am to 2pm. Local rates for the lunch buffet are $19 per adult and $9 per child (ages 5-10).

Aqua Resort Club aims to make Father's Day a memorable one. Start the day right by treating Dad to Sunday Brunch at Costa Terrace, where he'll enjoy a delicious buffet of international cuisine and free-flowing Budweiser. Brunch is available this Sunday, June 17, from 11am to 2om. Local rates are $40 per adult and $20 per child (ages 5-10). Then enjoy some fun-filled family time in the pool for just $10 more.

If you're look for a more upscale celebration, treat him to dinner at Kevin's, where he'll enjoy Aqua Resort Club's premium cuts of Black Mountain prime rib, fresh seafood, and Aqua Resort Club's house specials. Every father who orders a Kevin's Cut will be upgraded to a Golden Alex Ward Cut, the hotel's thickest, juiciest, bone-in 14oz. In addition, fathers get bottomless Budweiser for free. Promo is available on Sunday, June 17, from 6am to 10pm.

Saturday, June 23, is National Public Service Day, and Aqua Resort Club is celebrating all types of public service. The hotel is offering a 20-percent discount for all public servants at the International Lunch Buffet (11am-2pm) and the Steak Night Buffet (6pm-9pm).

Aqua Resort Club is also helping celebrate Insurance Awareness Day on June 28, where they will be offering a 20-percent discount to all insurance agency employees at Aqua Resort Club's popular local Chamolinan-themed lunch buffet.

For reservations and more information, contact Aqua Resort Club at (670) 322-1234. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

CNMI WIC WOMEN • INFANTS • CHILDREN

ANNOUNCEMENT

The CNMI WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) Program is now accepting Vendor Applications for the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

All interested vendors may pick up an application at the main office located on Upper Navy Hill Building # N-25, beginning June 04, 2018; Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, or request for an application via email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org or download an application on CHCC's website at http://chcc.gov.mp/index.php/division-of-public-health/women-infants-and-children-program

Applications must be submitted to the CNMI WIC Program's Administrative Office no later than 4:00 p.m., July 13, 2018.

Prospective applicants are encouraged to carefully read through the information provided to ensure minimum qualifications are met.

Inquiries and technical questions may be directed to the Vendor Management Coordinator, Fabian M. Ulloa at (670) 664-4067, by email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org.

USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

/s/ **Esther L. Muna**
Chief Executive Office
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

/s/ **Eric Angela Camacho**
WIC Program Administrator
CNMI WIC Program

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXVIII, Issue No. 115

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Making it harder for companies to invest and create jobs for Americans

We're not much of a fan of that famous line on General Motors that "What's good for GM is good for America." It's a little too cheeky for us. But there is a ring of truth embedded in it, and it's that a thriving economy is good for this country.

So we are growing more than a little concerned about the Donald Trump administration's panache for inserting uncertainty into business decisions that could determine the fate of American jobs tied to trade.

Here is what is happening: Companies make investments based on their predictions for the future. Since the 1990s, for companies interested in the United States that future has featured a North American Free Trade Agreement that enabled them to build efficient supply chains across the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

And until last week, companies thought they could count on moving goods across NAFTA borders without facing tariffs on such things as steel and aluminum.

The result has been a boon for Texas and the United States, as well as Mexico and Canada. In many cases, parts cross the border several times as products—including automobiles, airplanes and a wide range of other goods—are fitted out with specialized components. In some cases, an item might cross borders seven times before it reaches the consumer market.

The benefit is that companies can become more globally competitive even while the United States preserves or enhances the niche areas of production where it maintains competitive advantages. In other words, over the long-term trade agreements give American workers a better opportunity to beat foreign competitors.

Threatening to upend trade agreements puts that at risk. Companies will delay or cancel plans to build out supply chains in places where tariffs could suddenly be imposed.

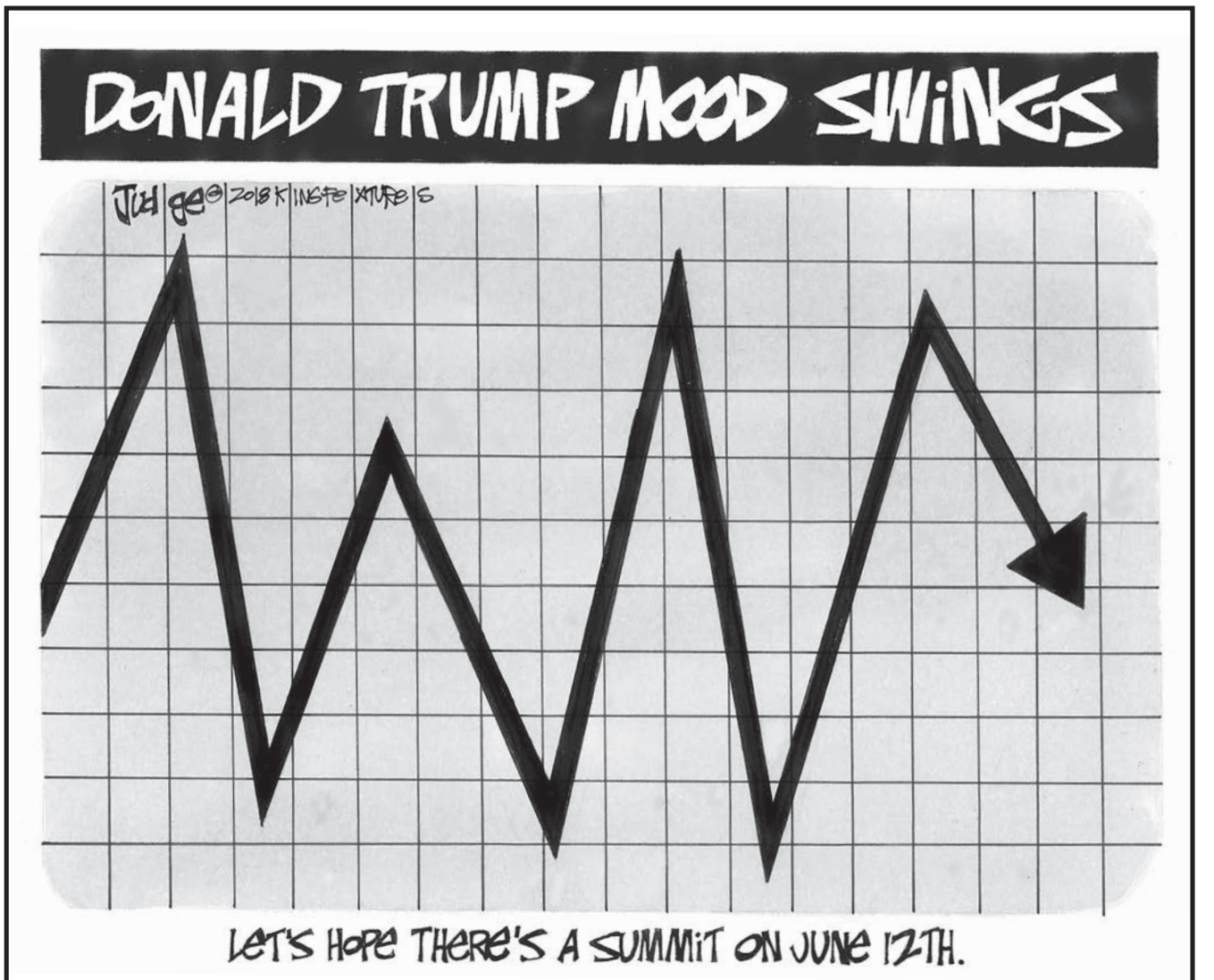
So the Trump administration's new tariffs on NAFTA partners as well as its goal of adding a sunset provision to NAFTA nearly guarantees that fewer companies will allow their supply chains to straddle North American borders. Why invest now if there is a hard-to-quantify risk of new tariffs being imposed?

Instead, companies will likely move production to other countries with low tariffs that are less of a lightning rod in American politics. Or they could just shift to trading blocs without such risk, even if that means cutting American jobs in the process. And there are an estimated 156,000 jobs in Texas alone tied to NAFTA.

The same is true in regard to trade arrangements with the European Union, Japan and other allies. And beyond the business investment, tariffs will hit American wallets.

For example, 90 percent of the steel Plano-based Toyota

See AMERICANS on Next Page



Is it too late to fix Facebook?

By JENNIFER VAN GROVE
San Diego Union-Tribune

Jennifer Van Grove covers e-commerce and digital lifestyle for The San Diego Union Tribune*. Readers may send her email at jennifer.vangrove@utsandiego.com.*

Facebook has lost its way.

It's hard to pinpoint exactly when the social networking behemoth veered off course. But as for how and why, that's easy to nail down.

Facebook has a friends and family problem, meaning the tight-knit social fabric that drew us in—important or heart-warming posts from our moms, dads, sisters, brothers and besties—has all but unraveled. Instead, in our News Feed, we're left with partially satisfying updates from loose connections, the day's news and the ensuing rants, and videos we never asked to see.

We are, in part, to blame. When Facebook told us to "like" Pages, we did. When Facebook encouraged us to "follow" celebrities and media companies, we did that, too. And, of course, some of us couldn't help boosting our "friend" count just for the sake of appearing popular.

But, really, it all comes back to Mark Zuckerberg's long-stated mission of making us "more open and connected," a philosophy that couldn't be further from reinforcing the types of private and meaningful connections most of us crave. And so Facebook's algorithm has taken over, pushing us to perform sympathy likes that repeat the cycle of updates from distant acquaintances, promoting the company's own changing business interests and prioritizing content based on social cues that don't appear to be processed on a human level.

No wonder today's teenagers have decidedly relegated Facebook to second-tier social status, now finding it far less arresting than its hipper cousins YouTube, Instagram and Snapchat. Or, as this week's Pew Research Center report highlighting Facebook's fourth-place ranking put it: "The social media landscape in which teens reside looks markedly different than it did as recently as three years ago."

Let's belabor this point a bit longer. In the three years between 2015 and 2018, a seismic shift in teen attention took place. A large majority, or 71 percent, of teenagers (ages 13 to 17) were using Facebook in 2015 and now just about half (51 percent) of them are using the social network. In Facebook's place are Instagram and Snapchat, now used by 72 percent and 69 percent of teens, respectively.

Maybe it's as simple as teens not wanting to be Internet friends with their folks. It's probably more nuanced than that. Teens have instinctively gravitated to the two platforms that don't confuse personal ties with public personas. For the latter, they have taken to Instagram. Meanwhile, they're getting their real-friend fix from Snapchat, where sharing for the sake of attention plays second fiddle to engaging in private exchanges.

The catch-all social network just doesn't work for them.

And it doesn't work for us adults either. The difference is we continue to default to Facebook. But for how much longer?

Facebook knows there's a problem. The company's "Here Together" TV ad tells us as much, even if it was primarily prompted by the Cambridge Analytica scandal. That ad, though, is spot on. It starts with this simple truth: "We came here for the friends ... but then something happened." And the ad's promise—to keep us safer and protect our privacy "so we can all get back to what made Facebook good in the first place: friends"—is great, if only we could trust the company to follow through.

Sadly, that "something" isn't just the spam, click bait, fake news and data misuse identified in the ad. That something is Facebook itself, which thrives not on our friendships, but on our behavioral data. And thrive it does. The company raked in a healthy $12 billion in revenue, primarily from selling mobile ads, from January through March.

For its part, the company has been making pro-friend adjustments to News Feed since January.

"Facebook was built to bring people closer together," a Facebook spokesperson said via email to me. "Earlier this year, we made changes to prioritize posts that inspire discussion in the comments and posts that you might want to share and react to. We'll continue to focus on these updates to ranking so people have more opportunities to interact with the people they care about."

But the damage is done. We've liked, commented and shared our way to News Feed ambivalence and we're kind of stuck. Fourteen years later, our lives are housed inside Facebook, after all.

If we're lucky, though, this disconnect will finally open the door for a newcomer to create the place that Facebook could have, and should have been.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

What to watch for when they meet in Singapore

By TRUDY RUBIN
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial-board member for the Philadelphia Inquirer. *Readers may write to her at:* Philadelphia Inquirer, *P.O. Box 8263, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101, or by email at trubin@phillynews.com.*

The Singapore summit between President Trump and Kim Jong Un will be the most riveting reality show of the Trump presidency.

It's not just the optics of two leaders who are consummate showmen with daunting hairdos trying to upstage each other in front of a zillion cameras. And it's not just the unpredictability – as the secretive but shrewd North Korean faces a U.S. leader who hates briefings and loves to deviate from his script.

This is about real stuff, about whether a North Korea that is a full-blown nuclear power with intercontinental ballistic missiles that can reach the U.S. mainland is really ready to shed its nuclear weapons. And about whether Trump has a realistic strategy or, in the glamour of the moment, will be played by Kim.

As we approach the Tuesday moment, here's what to watch for to help you assess the summit state of play.

Check out the optics, because they matter

Too much Trump bonhomie, hugs, or public flattery will only bolster Kim's astonishingly swift rise from "little rocket man" to a global leader wooed by Beijing, Moscow, and Seoul, and now sitting across from the U.S. president

So watch to see if the summit produces more than another Trump bromance – a "get-to-know-you situation," as Trump put it. Will a detailed framework and timetable for denuclearization emerge?

Does the summit deliver a "big bang" or the beginning of a long negotiating process?

Will Trump accept the latter? When the summit talk first started, the White House insisted its goal was the complete, verifiable, and irreversible destruction of North Korea's nuclear weapons, or CVID. Trump's national security adviser, John Bolton, cited the Libyan model, in which Muammar Gaddafi's minimal program with no nukes was dismantled in three months.

"CVID is a pipe dream," says Joel Wit, a former U.S. diplomat involved in past negotiations with North Korea, who is now a senior fellow at the Stimson Center in Washington. "The issue for us is, how far can we get in that direction? A freeze (of nuclear and missile testing), rolling back, and dismantling is not something that happens overnight."

Indeed, CVID is a distant, probably unachievable goal given Pyongyang's cache of over 60 nukes and its enormous program.

The president, on a steep learning curve, has started backpedaling on a big bang and talking about process, and Bolton has been curbed (for now). But a long process would make the negotiations look more like those of the Clinton and George W. Bush administrations, which blocked Pyongyang's nuclear progress for years, but ultimately failed.

"There's nothing Trump can say at the summit that will convince Kim (to completely end his program) but he could set the tone for serious talks while testing Kim along the way,"says Suzanne DiMaggio, a senior fellow at the New America Foundation and director of a U.S.-North Korea dialogue that included several visits to North Korea, Will Trump have the patience for the long haul?

Will the summit produce peace in our time (between North and South Korea)?

There are rumors that there will be some sort of announcement of an end to the war between North and South Korea, attended by South Korean President Moon Jai-in (the 1953 war ended with a U.N. armistice).

This would provide high drama, but would make it much harder for Trump to re-exert any military pressure on North Korea if arms talks went nowhere. This is why previous U.S. presidents have opposed pursuit of a formal North-South peace accord before the nuclear issues are addressed.

Who's the better deal-maker, Trump or Kim?

"Kim has proven himself to be a really savvy negotiator," says DiMaggio. Very true. The summit will provide Kim with the recognition he and his father sought in vain from previous U.S. presidents, and Trump has delivered it before any progress on divesting North Korean nukes.

Moreover, Kim has used the prospect of talks to undercut the sanctions regime that helped get him to the table. Beijing is already informally loosening sanctions while Russia has called for their lifting and invited Kim to Moscow. Meantime, South Korea's President Moon – the prime mover behind the summit – is moving ahead with peace efforts, with or without Trump.

In other words, Kim is wooing the regional leaders whom Trump will need to exert future leverage on Pyongyang. "This administration is focused on bilateral talks but there is no evidence it has the skills and capacity to do multilateral diplomacy," says DiMaggio. Indeed, Trump canceled the Singapore summit without notifying South Korea, and has treated Seoul cavalierly on trade.

Will Trump give away the store?

In the countdown to the summit, many Korea experts wonder whether Trump might fall prey to Kim's demands that he reduce troops on the Korean peninsula before denuclearization, worrying Asian allies that America no longer has their back. "He could get caught up in a moment of personal glory where he could give up the whole store," muses DiMaggio. "He's got to be ready to resist his instincts to make a bad deal."

The reality of Trump's deal-making talents will be on full display in Singapore.

What happened to Roseanne and Kaepernick has zero to do with First Amendment rights

By KARIN KLEIN
The Sacramento Bee

Karin Klein is a veteran California journalist and commentator. Follow her on Twitter @kklein100.

This era of political discontent has seemingly made us all experts on the First Amendment and freedom of speech. Or at least, there's a lot of complaining about one news event or another that provokes widespread sentiments that our constitutional right to express ourselves is being trampled from the left and the right, whether it involves Roseanne Barr's unwillingness to control her behavior, or the NFL's rules on taking a knee.

Occasionally, those complaints are valid. There are legitimate concerns, for example, about the ability of conservatives to speak at public college and university campuses.

But the First Amendment has become a colorful flag to wave at all sorts of opportune moments. "So much for our First Amendment rights," people grumble on social media and the comments sections of news stories every time they don't like the consequences that people faced for expressing themselves.

Clearly, we need to do a better job of teaching civics throughout the years of public school. Freedom of speech doesn't mean what most people obviously think. A person is banned from Twitter for abusive tweets and suddenly the Bill of Rights is in deep trouble.

That's what people claimed two years ago, when ultraconservative agitator Milo Yiannopoulos was thrown off Twitter for an abusive, racist campaign targeting comedian Leslie Jones. And nobody was complaining louder than Yiannopoulos himself. No surprise there.

"Some people are going to find this perfectly acceptable," he told the New York Times. "Anyone who believes in free speech or is a conservative certainly will not."

So mark him as yet another person who doesn't get it. Yiannopoulos never had an inherent right to use Twitter to say whatever he wanted.

Free speech as defined by the U.S. Constitution covers only the relationship between the people and their government:

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

The wording invokes restrictions only on Congress, which has been read broadly by the courts to mean government in general. Twitter is a private enterprise – and also one that has several stipulations to which people must agree in order to join, though there are probably about three people worldwide who actually read those agreements instead of just clicking the box next to the words "I agree."

Yiannopoulos' right to free speech was completely intact. As far as the government was concerned, as long as he didn't represent a threat of government overthrow or immediate danger to others, he was within his rights to act as foully as he chose – or generally chooses.

Twitter, however, owed him nothing. Nor any of the other people it has suspended or banned for abusive behavior during the past couple of years.

Two more recent events illustrate that the misunderstanding of free speech comes from both the right and the left: The NFL decision to essentially ban players from taking the knee during the national anthem, on penalty of being fined, and Roseanne Barr's show being canceled because of an ugly, racist Twitter rant.

"This is a First Amendment issue," liberals darkly stated on social media about the NFL decision. "What happened to free speech?" cried conservatives about Barr.

But the NFL decision was, at least as far as we publicly know, a decision by a private organization. It has the right to set rules for its teams and players, even if the rules stink. There are mutterings that the rule is a result of political pressure from the White House or its allies, but if that's true, it's the NFL's job to stick up for its players – if it chooses to do so – and stand for its First Amendment rights.

If there was such pressure, and if the NFL had rejected it and stood up for its players, the government could not have stopped it. If there was government retaliation against the NFL, there would certainly have been a case for a violation of the First Amendment. But we're many steps away from that.

Similarly, Barr is free to continue her indecent mouthiness. If she keeps doing it on Twitter, she might find herself shut off from her easy access to the public, but Barr was good at fomenting outrage over one mindless thing or another, long before Twitter existed, and she's unlikely to stop now. The government won't interfere with her, but ABC is a private entity that doesn't have to go along.

Have people seriously thought that they had an absolute right to free speech without repercussions from the private sector? If they work for a widget company, though those have probably all been outsourced to a developing nation by now, they'd be ill-advised to start making public statements deriding the company's widgets as inferior junk.

We give up our rights to free speech on a frequent basis. Nondisparagement clauses in contracts are common. People who settle lawsuits out of court frequently sign non-disclosure agreements. Public lawsuits, but a private agreements.

We're having enough trouble with the First Amendment these days without misunderstanding what it is in the first place.

AMERICANS

From Page 10

North America uses comes from the United States. Nonetheless, Toyota estimates that tariffs could add hundreds of dollars to the price of each new car it sells in the U.S.

Amid the uncertainty that Trump's trade policies create, this much should be clear: Trump's tariffs will also hit American workers.

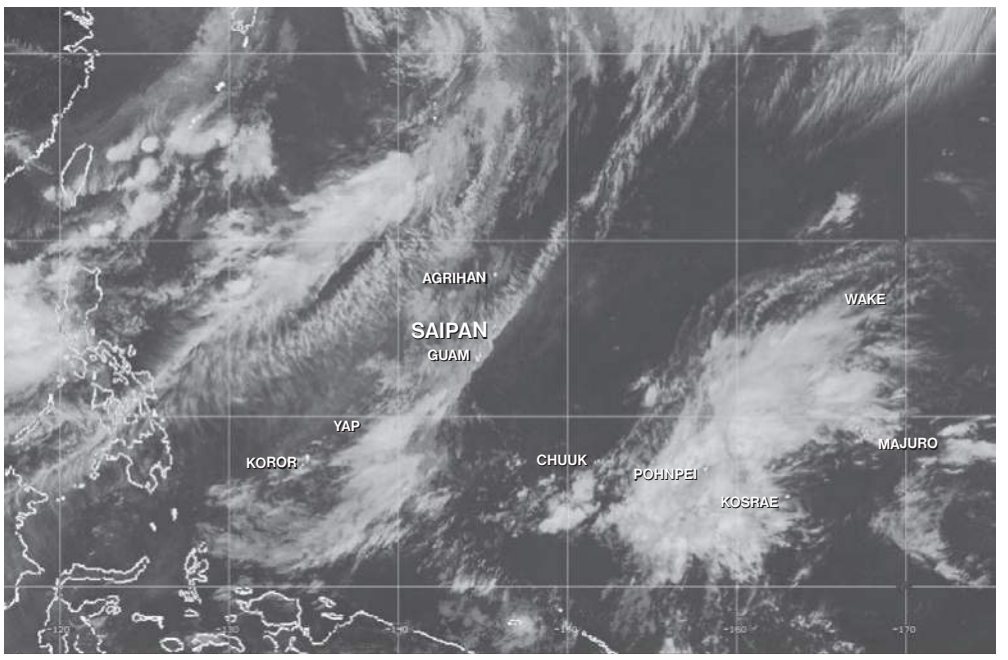
(c)2018 *The Dallas Morning News*

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 10:50 AM, MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Satellite imagery shows that the showers and thunderstorms associated with a surface trough have shifted to the west of the Marianas allowing drier air to move in. This dry pattern will linger for a couple of days as the low-level ridge will be slow to move northwest. A surface trough in Pohnpei State will bring the next shot of increased cloudiness and some showers late in the week.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	87° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorm	83° / 77°
Yap	Partly Cloudy	86° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	87° / 76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	87° / 76°
Majuro	Thunderstorm	83° / 79°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Rain	61° / 54°
Beijing	Sunny	93° / 66°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	86° / 81°
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	86° / 74°
London	Thunderstorm	68° / 52°
Los Angeles	Sunny	82° / 62°
Manila	Thunderstorm	84° / 81°
Melbourne	Showers	55° / 46°
Miami	Thunderstorm	84° / 79°
New York	Sunny	73° / 63°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	77° / 61°
Paris	Rain	66° / 52°
Busan	Partly Cloudy	72° / 64°
Rome	Sunny	90° / 66°
Salem	Thunderstorm	86° / 70°
San Francisco	Sunny	66° / 53°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	82° / 64°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	75° / 64°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	78° / 67°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
5:32 AM	HIGH TIDE	2.03
12:41 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.28
7:25 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.89
-	-	-

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Wednesday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Thursday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:48 PM
Saturday	5:46 AM	6:48 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	4:07 AM	5:07 PM	-
Wednesday	4:59 AM	6:10 PM	-
Thursday	5:56 AM	7:14 PM	-
Friday	6:58 AM	8:17 PM	-
Saturday	8:01 AM	9:17 PM	-

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769.
E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 6, 2018

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	8:45am	9:30am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA117	7:00am	7:45am	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, seated fourth left, and Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), sixth left, join officials of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., Northern Marianas College's Nursing Department, Commonwealth Health Center nurses, and those in the private sector for a group photo after last Wednesday's signing of the CNMI Nurses Week. JON PEREZ

Torres looks forward to signing nursing scholarship bill

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres looks forward to signing a bill that aims to provide financial assistance to students who would pursue nursing degrees.

During last Wednesday's signing of CNMI Nurses' Week proclamation at the Office of the Governor, Torres expressed hope that the Legislature would finalize this special scholarship program for nurses by the end of the summer.

The bill, Senate Bill 20-71, intends to entice more students to go into the medical profession, whether on or off-island, then return to the CNMI.

Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) introduced the bill to create a nursing school professional scholarship. It passed the Senate last December and is awaiting action at the House.

S.B. 20-71 ultimately aims to fill the need for more nurses at the local hospital, the Commonwealth Health Center.

Torres, who said he is aware that nurses are a critical component of every healthcare system, is thankful for Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Esther L. Muña and the Northern Marianas College's Nursing Department for their efforts in making sure the CNMI has enough nurses.

"[CHCC CEO Muña], thank you for your continued effort in making sure CHC continues to provide all the programs that we have. Thank you also to NMC for making sure the nursing program continues to flourish," Torres said.

"For every graduate you have, it will not only just provide stability in our healthcare system but also lessen our dependency on foreign workers and our CW1 issues by encouraging our youth [to pursue nursing]."

The author of the bill, Palacios, said he sees the importance of S.B. 20-71 after being raised in a family that's in the medical profession. "I come to appreciate this as I look back on the services our parents provided to the CNMI."

"They leave home to work at the hospital and have to leave us to the care of our aunts and grandparents. We are reminded that medical and healthcare are the most critical service in our community," said Palacios.

He said that the CNMI Legislature has always recognized NMC's programs, especially the Nursing Department. "The scholarship program that we introduced will hopefully makes its way to the House and to the governor's desk for signing."

"NMC has provided support on this piece of legislation. Without [NMCs] assistance and them advocating for it, it might not be at this stage where it is awaiting approval at the House. It should have been an issue that we should have addressed a long time ago that would help stabilize all the uncertainties that we are experiencing right now," Palacios added.

The CNMI is celebrating Nurses Week from June 10 to 16, with Torres signing the proclamation last week to honor the hundreds of nurses in the CNMI.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Saipan writers' workshop at the JKPL

On Saturday, June 23, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will host a writers' workshop from 1pm to 4pm. Learn more about writing, publishing, and selling your book. Walt Goodridge, the author of several books, will be leading the class. This year, teens participating in the Summer Reading Program can attend for free! Bring a laptop to the class. To sign up, visit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library and see Emily at the front desk. For the latest news and events, visit the www.cnmilib.org. Call the library at 235-7322/23 for questions/concerns. ***(PR)***

Military training at Warning Area 517

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. military will conduct training at Warning Area 517 on:

- June 12, from 4pm to 9pm
- June 13, from 1:30pm to 9pm
- June 15, from 3pm to 8pm

It is recommended the public, fishermen and marine tour operators monitor the Coast Guard broadcast notice to mariners for advisories. W-517 begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. ***(PR)***

Water outage in San Vicente tomorrow

There will be a scheduled water service interruption on Wednesday, June 13, from 8am to 5pm for the San Vicente area, specifically for customers residing in the following streets: Katupat Drive, Bentana Drive, Laulau Bay Drive, Hotdu Drive, and the lower portion of Katbon Road.

The purpose of the water service interruption is to allow Commonwealth Utilities Corp. personnel to perform repairs and overhauls of old fittings on the existing 4-inch pressure reducing valve. As a result of the replacement and overhaul, a more reliable water system will be provided to the community. Customers in the affected areas should expect restoration of water services soon after.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282). ***(PR)***

Triple J signs on as LibDay Festival sponsor

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Triple J Enterprises has joined the list of sponsors of this year's Liberation Day festival, donating over $2,000 for the event.

Valentina Haberman, Triple J corporate marketing manager and Liberation Day committee logistics chair, said the turnover last Friday makes formal Triple J's donation $2,500 and manpower to this year's Liberation Day festival.

"We understand that this year, there were a lot of budget cuts and we [Liberation Day committee] are really pushing hard to receive in-kind and cash donations," she said.

Haberman said that Triple J thought it would be best to donate cash due to the budget cuts implemented this year that has also impacted this year's Liberation Day committee and manpower was included to ensure the festivities run as smoothly as possible.

"At the end of the day, it's to support the community…and coming together for nine days to bring entertainment," she said.

This year, there will be over 20 food vendors and 10 retail vendors at the festival. "We have very limited spaces for food and retail, which is great...but we want to make sure that each vendor gets to maximize their items for sale…" Haberman said.

The Liberation Day festival will be held at the Garapan Fishing Base starting on June 29 and will lead up to the annual Liberation Day Parade on July 4.

NMD comments sought in HLI public hearing

The House of Representatives' Committee on Natural Resources will be conducting a public hearing today, June 12, starting at 6pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

This public hearing will particularly affect those of Northern Marianas descent.

Rep. Alice S. Igitol (R-Saipan), who chairs the committee, is strongly soliciting the participation of the public, especially NMDs, to attend this hearing so that they can present comments, suggestions and/or recommendations on the proposal to amend Article 11, Section 6(d) of the CNMI Constitution.

Presently, Article 11, Section 6 (d) states that trustees of the Marianas Public Land Trust "shall carry out the intention of Article 8, Section 803(e) of the Covenant by using the interest on the amount received for the lease of the property at Tanapag Harbor for the development and maintenance of a memorial park. The trustees shall transfer to the general revenue of the Commonwealth the remaining interest accrued on the trust proceeds, except that the trustees may retain the amount of necessary to meet reasonable expenses of administration."

The proposed House legislative initiative amendment states, that trustees of the Marianas Public Land Trust "shall carry out the intention of Article 8, Section 803(e) of the Covenant by using the interest on the amount received for the lease of the property at Tanapag Harbor for the development and maintenance of a memorial park. The trustees shall transfer the accrued interest into a separate special account to be distributed to all eligible persons of Northern Marianas descents every year, except that the trustees may retain the amount necessary to meet reasonable expenses of the administration. To be eligible to receive the portion of the fund, all persons of Northern Marianas descent are required to register at the Marianas Public Land Trust office. The Marianas Public Land Trust shall issue an official "Northern Marianas Descent Identification Card" to all eligible persons of Northern Marianas descent for use for the distribution of the accrued interest funds. The Marianas Public Land trustees shall be authorized to establish rules and procedure to effectuate the intent of the section."

In a media notice, Igitol is quoted as saying it highly critical that the public, most especially the Northern Marianas descent, attend this hearing so that the legislative initiative can be placed on the ballot this coming election.

"Your full participation at the hearing will provide proper guidance to the Legislature on this constitutional amendment. Your presence at the hearing is highly appreciated," the notice added. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

Business

Trump's tweets slam Canada and Trudeau anew from Singapore

QUEBEC CITY (AP)—President Donald Trump took more swipes at Canada and its prime minister over trade issues as he settled in for a summit with North Korea in Singapore, contending that "Fair Trade is now to be called Fool Trade if it is not Reciprocal."

Trump roiled the Group of Seven meeting in Canada by first agreeing to a group statement on trade only to withdraw from it while complaining that he had been blindsided by Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's criticism of Trump's tariff threats at a summit-ending news conference. As he flew from Canada to Singapore Saturday night, Trump displayed his ire via Twitter, which he also employed to insult Trudeau as "dishonest" and "weak."

AP

President Donald Trump arrives at Paya Lebar Air Base for a summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, Sunday, June 10, 2018, in Singapore.

The attack on a longtime ally and its leader drew sharp criticism. German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who also attended the summit, told German public television that she found Trump's tweet disavowing the G-7 statement "sobering" and "a little depressing." Merkel also said the European Union would "act" against the U.S. trade measures.

Unbowed, Trump tweeted anew Monday morning from Singapore: "Fair Trade is now to be called Fool Trade if it is not Reciprocal. According to a Canada release, they make almost 100 Billion Dollars in Trade with U.S. (guess they were bragging and got caught!). Minimum is 17B. Tax Dairy from us at 270%. Then Justin acts hurt when called out!"

He added: "Why should I, as President of the United States, allow countries to continue to make Massive Trade Surpluses, as they have for decades, while our Farmers, Workers & Taxpayers have such a big and unfair price to pay? Not fair to the PEOPLE of America! $800 Billion Trade Deficit... And add to that the fact that the U.S. pays close to the entire cost of NATO-protecting many of these same countries that rip us off on Trade (they pay only a fraction of the cost-and laugh!). The European Union had a $151 Billion Surplus-should pay much more for Military!"

And he brought in Merkel's government: ....Germany pays 1% (slowly) of GDP towards NATO, while we pay 4% of a MUCH larger GDP. Does anybody believe that makes sense? We protect Europe (which is good) at great financial loss, and then get unfairly clobbered on Trade. Change is coming!"

Earlier, the White House escalated the initial tirade and leveled more withering and unprecedented criticism against Trudeau, branding him a back-stabber unworthy of Trump's time.

"There's a special place in hell for any foreign leader that engages in bad faith diplomacy with President Donald J. Trump and then tries to stab him in the back on the way out the door," Trump trade adviser Peter Navarro said in an interview nationally broadcast Sunday in the United States.

Canada's foreign minister, Chrystia Freeland, said her country "does not conduct its diplomacy through ad hominem attacks."

The verbal volleys by Navarro and Trump's top economic adviser, Larry Kudlow, picked up where Trump had left off Saturday evening. Kudlow suggested Trump saw Trudeau as trying to weaken his hand before that meeting, saying the president won't "let a Canadian prime minister push him around. ... Kim must not see American weakness." Kudlow was referring to North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

Trudeau, who had said at the news conference that Canada would retaliate for new U.S. tariffs, didn't respond to questions about Trump when the prime minister arrived at a Quebec City hotel Sunday for meetings with other world leaders. Freeland later told reporters that "we don't think that's a useful or productive way to do business."

A Trudeau spokesman, Cameron Ahmad, said Saturday night that Trudeau "said nothing he hasn't said before—both in public and in private conversations" with Trump.

And Roland Paris, a former foreign policy adviser to Trudeau, jabbed at Trump on Twitter: "Big tough guy once he's back on his airplane. Can't do it in person. ... He's a pathetic little man-child."

Trudeau said he had reiterated to Trump, who left the G-7 meeting before it ended, that tariffs would harm industries and workers on both sides of the U.S.-Canada border. Trudeau told reporters that imposing retaliatory measures "is not something I relish doing" but that he wouldn't hesitate to do so because "I will always protect Canadian workers and Canadian interests."

Manager's gossip is stirring up trouble

Q: In the dental practice where I work, we have a new office manager who is rapidly demoralizing her staff. "Kelly" is a chronic gossip who constantly belittles employees behind their backs. She will have a negative conversation with one person about another, then turn around and tell the first one what the second one said.

As a dental hygienist, I am not directly involved with the administrative staff. However, they often share the comments that Kelly makes about their coworkers. In my 20 years here, I have never seen a manager like this. The dentist seems to have no clue about what's happening. Is there anything I can do?

A: Participating in office gossip is the mark of a highly immature manager, but intentionally stirring up conflict escalates Kelly's conduct to the level of toxic behavior. Good managers attempt to eliminate drama and divisiveness, not create it.

Unless an authority figure intervenes, people may soon begin leaving for more pleasant surroundings. Fortunately, however, your long history with the practice may put you in a position to help. After working with this dentist for two decades, you should have sufficient credibility to make him trust your account of Kelly's shortcomings.

For example: "I'm becoming concerned about Kelly's relationship with our administrative staff. She seems to enjoy spreading harmful gossip and publicly criticizing her employees. Because this is hurting morale, I'm afraid we might lose some valuable people. Could you talk with Kelly and explain that this is not proper management behavior?"

Unfortunately, private practice professionals frequently shrink from addressing performance issues, forgetting that they must also be responsible business managers. But hopefully your dentist will have a firm discussion with Kelly and then quickly replace her if this disruptive behavior continues.

Q: After a recent reorganization, I was told that I would be moving to a different department. Although I can easily perform my new job, the duties are totally unrelated to my professional background. To make it worse, someone with much less experience has now assumed my previous responsibilities.

This change has been very demoralizing, because I really miss doing the work for which I was trained. In my former role, I felt that I was making a valuable contribution, but this position seems much less essential. What do you think I should do about this?

A: Your discomfort at being unexpectedly shoved out of your comfort zone is completely understandable. Reassigning employees without explanation is inexcusable, so your managers clearly need more leadership training.

On the positive side, perhaps they hope to use your skills and abilities in a new way, believing that you can add value in a different role. In that case, they need to articulate those expectations. But if management was somehow disappointed with your performance, then you need to understand their concerns.

Either way, it's time to have a talk with your boss or human resources manager. Without complaining about your current job, explain that you're confused about why you were relocated. Once you know the reason for this change, you should be better able to determine your next steps.

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of "Secrets to Winning at Office Politics." Send in questions and get free coaching tips at http://www.youroffi-cecoach.com, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.

Italy's economy minister insists abandoning euro not planned

ROME (AP)—Italy's new populist government isn't considering leaving the eurozone, the country's economy minister insisted, dismissing financial markets' rocky reaction to the euroskeptic coalition now in power as "normal questions that accompany political transition."

Economy Minister Giovanni Tria told Italy's national Corriere della Sera newspaper in an interview published Sunday that the "position of the government is clear-cut and unanimous. No plan to exit from the euro is being discussed."

Tria, an economics policy professor who was a last-minute choice for the Cabinet post, went further with his avowal that Italy's footing in the 19-member shared currency union is firm.

"Not only do we not want to exit" the union of nations that use the euro as their official currency, but the government is determined to counter actions that would "put our presence in the euro up for discussion," he said.

Tria, an economics policy professor, was a last-minute choice to replace the coalition's preferred pick for the post

Italy's president refused to approve the first economy minister proposed by the leaders of the 5-Star Movement and the League, a different economist who has advocated having a backup plan to abandon the euro.

President Sergio Mattarella cited fears that championing such a plan would further roil financial markets that were already jittery from the inconclusive March election and the prospect of a populist-led government.

Last week, during the League-5 Star government's first full week in office, the bonds market and Milan's stock market appeared nervous about the potential for Italy's already high debt to rise further.

The leaders of the two parties have promised to enact expensive campaign pledges. Luigi Di Maio, who leads the web-based 5-Star Movement, has pledged to give the unemployed and low-income Italians a guaranteed monthly income.

Matteo Salvini's right-wing League has vowed to drastically slash tax rates for both Italian citizens and businesses. Both politicians, who are deputy premiers in the new government, want to undo parts of a recent pension reform so Italians can retire at younger ages.

Nation

Immigration raid worries landscapers relying on foreign help

TOLEDO, Ohio (AP)—Already facing a severe labor shortage, landscaping businesses that can't keep up with booming demand for backyard patios and fire pits worry that an immigration raid that rounded up over 100 people last week will make it even tougher to persuade Congress to allow more foreign workers into America for seasonal jobs.

Owners of landscaping companies near Tuesday's sting in the Lake Erie resort city of Sandusky and nearby Castalia, which targeted workers with forged documents in one of the largest actions at a workplace in recent years, said it sent a shiver of apprehension through their industry.

"I believe most of us are doing things the right way, but every company is going to be worried that they're going to be raided," said Joe Drake, who runs JFD Landscapes in Chardon, also in northern Ohio.

AP

In this June 5, 2018, file photo, government agents stand guard alongside suspects taken into custody during an immigration sting at Corso's Flower and Garden Center in Castalia, Ohio.

Drake, who has been maintaining lawns for nearly 30 years, spent the past week in Chicago meeting with other seasonal employers to try crafting a strategy that would persuade Congress to ease restrictions on H2-B temporary visas, a type set aside for foreign workers who hold seasonal, nonagricultural jobs.

While many seasonal employers and tourism businesses were shut out of the program this year, landscapers were hit especially hard because they rely on the program more than many other industries to fill jobs they say nobody else wants.

"I'm not condoning breaking the law in any way, shape, or form, but we need a program that works," Drake said. "How do you think this work is going to get done?"

This year, a federal lottery for the first time determined which employers would get their allotment, initially capped at 66,000 workers until the Department of Homeland Security announced two weeks ago it would allow another 15,000 additional visas.

That still leaves a shortage, though, after the elimination last year of a "returning worker exemption" that allowed workers to come back to their job without counting against the cap.

The number of temporary visas issued each year tends to fluctuate with the economy. And while the limit hasn't changed since the early 1990s, Congress has at times allowed exemptions to exceed it.

Joe Schill, president of Green Impressions in Sheffield near Cleveland, didn't get any of the 18 foreign workers he had been counting on this year, forcing him to turn down jobs that cost his business about $300,000 in just April and May.

Trying to find replacements has proved futile, he said. Five new hires quit last week, and "what's left out there can't pass a drug test."

"I don't want to hire illegal guys. We've got too much to risk," he said. "But trust me, I can see why guys would want to go that way. I can totally understand these guys who might think they can beat the system."

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement said that it expects to charge the 114 workers arrested last week at Corso's Flower & Garden Center with identity theft and tax evasion and that the employer also is under investigation.

Corso's released a statement Friday saying it demands proper documentation from its employees and ensures they pay taxes. It also said that if anyone used false identification documents to get a job, the company was not aware.

Landscapers in Ohio were quick to point out that the workers were not among those with H2-B visas, who undergo background checks and are legally cleared to work.

Critics of the program say too many employers violate the program's spirit by filling jobs that aren't temporary or seasonal in nature, such as landscaping companies in warm weather states.

"So it is easier and sometimes cheaper to hire H2-Bs than it is to find available U.S. workers," said Jessica Vaughan, director of Policy Studies for the Center for Immigration Studies, which favors reducing immigration.

But Tamar Jacoby, president of business coalition ImmigrationWorks USA, said employers in immigrant-heavy industries have been "crushed for labor as the economy has recovered."

Unlike other industries, landscapers can rely on H2-B visas to some extent, but jobs are still hard to fill. "It's hot out there, it's wet, there are mosquitoes, there are brambles," Jacoby said.

ACROSS THE NATION

Boy set to go before judge in Indiana middle school shooting

NOBLESVILLE, Ind. (AP)—The 13-year-old boy accused of shooting and wounding a classmate and teacher at his suburban Indianapolis middle school is expected to appear before a judge. A juvenile court hearing is set for Monday morning for the boy. Prosecutors are asking the judge to declare him delinquent because he can't be tried as an adult due to his age. Authorities say the boy had two handguns and a knife when he opened fire inside the Noblesville West Middle School classroom on May 25. Thirteen-year-old Ella Whistler's family said last week that she was shot seven times and remained hospitalized. Science teacher Jason Seaman was shot as he tackled the shooter, but he was released from a hospital the next day.

Crash of small plane in Wisconsin kills 4 family members

MONROE, Wis. (AP)—A small plane has crashed in southern Wisconsin, killing four family members. The Green County Sheriff's Office says the crash happened just after noon Sunday about a mile north of the Monroe Municipal Airport. Sheriff Mark Rohloff says the single-engine Cessna 182T went down in a field and struck some trees. WKOW-TV reports that Rohloff says the pilot was a grandmother and the three passengers were her daughter and two granddaughters. All four died at the scene. The Wisconsin State Journal reports that Rohloff says the plane was scheduled to arrive in Monroe after taking off from the Kenosha Regional Airport in the morning. Rohloff says a witness heard the plane losing power, saw it descending and noticed flames coming from it. Firefighters put out a fire at the scene.

Police: Woman drove 2 children in pet kennels in Tennessee

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—Police in Tennessee say a woman has been charged with transporting two young children in pet kennels inside her vehicle. News outlets report 62-year-old Leimome Cheeks was charged with two counts of child endangerment. According to a Memphis police affidavit, Cheeks says there was no room inside her vehicle Saturday, so she told the children ages 7 and 8 to get inside the kennels. There were no air conditioning vents in the back of the vehicle and the children told police they became hot. Temperatures in the area reached about 95 degrees Fahrenheit (35 degrees Celsius). Cheeks was being held Sunday in the Shelby County Jail. Jail records didn't indicate whether Cheeks has an attorney who can comment on the charges.

Sheriff: Jailed immigrant killed self despite camera, checks

RIO GRANDE CITY, Texas (AP)—A Honduran man who entered the U.S. illegally killed himself in a Texas jail despite guards checking on him every half-hour and a camera in his padded cell, authorities say.

Marco Antonio Munoz, 39, was found unresponsive in his cell on the morning of May 13, a day after U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents brought him to the jail and two days after he was detained for entering the country illegally, the Starr County Sheriff's Office says in an incident report filed June 5 with the Texas attorney general's office and obtained Sunday by the Associated Press.

According to the report, jail officers said Munoz became combative during the booking process and was restrained and placed in a padded cell overnight. They said they checked on him every 30 minutes and at least once more during the morning shift before they eventually found him unresponsive on the floor.

Munoz was declared dead around 10 a.m., the report states. The sheriff's office said he didn't show any mental health problems or say anything that might have suggested he was thinking about killing himself.

Video footage from inside the cell showed that Munoz tied his sweater around a drain grate in the floor, looped it around his neck and turned his body around several times, cutting off his circulation and breathing. The report doesn't say what time that occurred and the sheriff's office didn't respond to requests for comment Sunday.

The Washington Post , citing unnamed border agents with detailed knowledge of what occurred, reports that Munoz entered the country with his wife and their 3-year-old son, and that he became enraged and had to be restrained when agents said the family would be separated.

The sheriff's report, like a CBP news release on Saturday, made no mention of details in the newspaper's story about why Munoz might have been so despondent.

The Trump administration has been sharply criticized for separating families of immigrants arriving in the country illegally.

The CBP statement said Munoz was apprehended by officers from its the Weslaco border station and transferred to the Rio Grande Valley immigration processing center. It said he was sent to the Starr County jail after becoming "disruptive and combative."

A CBP spokesman declined to comment further on Sunday. The Texas Rangers, who are investigating the death, as well as the state attorney general's office, the Honduran embassy in D.C. and the Honduran consulate offices in Houston and McAllen, Texas also didn't immediately respond to calls and emails seeking comment.

Asia

Final preparations begin for Trump-Kim high-stakes summit

AP
A man watches a TV screen showing file footage of U.S. President Donald Trump, right, and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un during a news program at the Seoul Railway Station in Seoul, South Korea, Monday, June 11, 2018.

SINGAPORE (AP)—Final preparations are underway in Singapore for Tuesday's historic summit between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, including a plan for the leaders to kick things off by meeting with only their translators present, a U.S. official said.

With a handshake scheduled for 9 a.m., Trump and Kim and their translators will meet first in a session that could stretch up to two hours before they allow their respective advisers to join them, said the U.S. official, who was not authorized to speak publicly about internal deliberations and insisted on anonymity.

U.S. and North Korean officials met Monday at the Ritz Carlton in this island city-state to negotiate before the first sit-down between a U.S. president and a North Korean leader, which is meant to settle a standoff over Pyongyang's nuclear arsenal.

Trump, who arrived Sunday night, tweeted Monday morning: "Great to be in Singapore, excitement in the air!"

Yet even as he turned his attention to the summit, Trump continued his blistering attacks on Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, tweeting "Fair Trade is now to be called Fool Trade if it is not Reciprocal." Again accusing the longtime U.S. ally of unfair trade practices, Trump added: "Then Justin acts hurt when called out!"

Trump and Kim arrived in Singapore hours apart Sunday. Trump descended from Air Force One into the steamy Singapore night, greeting officials and declaring he felt "very good" before being whisked away to his hotel via a route lined with police and photo-snapping onlookers. Trump traveled to Singapore from Canada, where he attended a meeting with other world leaders.

A jet carrying Kim landed hours earlier. After shaking hands with Singapore's foreign minister, Kim sped through the streets in a limousine, two large North Korean flags fluttering on the hood, surrounded by other black vehicles with tinted windows and bound for the luxurious and closely guarded St. Regis Hotel.

Kim smiled broadly Sunday evening as he met with Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong.

"The entire world is watching the historic summit between (North Korea) and the United States of America, and thanks to your sincere efforts ... we were able to complete the preparations for the historic summit," Kim told Lee through an interpreter.

Trump is set to meet with Lee on Monday.

Trump has said he hopes to make a legacy-defining deal for the North to give up its nuclear weapons, though he has recently sought to minimize expectations, saying more than one meeting may be necessary. The North has faced crippling diplomatic and economic sanctions as it has advanced development of its nuclear and ballistic missile programs.

Experts believe the North is on the brink of being able to target the entire U.S. mainland with its nuclear-armed missiles, and while there's deep skepticism that Kim will quickly give up those hard-won nukes, there's also some hope that diplomacy can replace the animosity between the U.S. and the North.

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Sung Kim, the U.S. ambassador to the Philippines who has taken the lead on policy negotiations with the North, will hold a "working group" with a North Korean delegation to discuss final preparations for the meeting.

The North Korean autocrat's every move will be followed by 3,000 journalists who have converged on Singapore, and by gawkers around the world, up until he shakes hands with Trump on Tuesday. It's a reflection of the intense global curiosity over Kim's sudden turn to diplomacy in recent months after a slew of North Korean nuclear and missile tests last year raised serious fears of war.

But it was only Monday morning in North Korea that the government news agency reported that Kim was in Singapore, had met with the prime minister and would meet Trump on Tuesday. One dispatch by the Korean Central News Agency said North Korea and the U.S. would exchange "wide-ranging and profound views" on establishing new relations, building a "permanent and durable peace-keeping mechanism," achieving denuclearization and "other issues of mutual concern, as required by the changed era."

It's Kim's pursuit of nuclear weapons that gives his meeting with Trump such high stakes. The meeting was initially meant to rid North Korea of its nuclear weapons, but the talks have been portrayed by Trump in recent days more as a get-to-know-you session. Trump has also raised the possibility of further summits and an agreement ending the Korean War by replacing the armistice signed in 1953 with a peace treaty. China and South Korea would have to sign off on any legal treaty.

In eye of storm, North Koreans sees scant news of Kim's trip

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP)—With all the attention focused on Singapore and the summit between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, Pyongyang must be buzzing with excitement, right?

Well, maybe, if anyone here knew it was happening.

Instead, North Korea's capital was like the calm in the center of a storm.

With few sources of information other than government-run media, gossip and word of mouth, North Koreans were largely in the dark about the momentous—and potentially life-changing—events taking place outside of their isolated nation.

Before Monday, official news outlets had reported only that the two leaders planned to meet, without saying where or when or offering any other specifics. Even as Kim arrived in Singapore on a special Air China flight Sunday, just hours before Trump, there was still no word in North Korea.

Finally, on Monday morning, the Korean Central News Agency, or KCNA, reported Kim was in Singapore, had met with Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and would meet Trump on Tuesday.

Before that, the top news in North Korea had been tremendously mundane, all things considered—a visit by Kim to a seafood restaurant in Pyongyang.

Word does get around, however, and the prospect of a meeting between Kim and Trump had already been on the public's radar. The meeting could have a major and direct impact on their daily lives, so it is only natural that people would want to know. But without a robust and independent media, accurate news is less likely and exaggeration and gossip probably abound.

By North Korean standards, Monday's announcement actually came a bit earlier than usual.

It has often waited until major events end to publish its first reports. News that U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo had visited North Korea and a big photo of him shaking Kim's hand appeared on the front page of the ruling party newspaper, the Rodong Sinmun, the following day.

Though it could mean many things, the relative speed of the reports about Kim traveling to Singapore could be seen as a sign of confidence by the North that the summit will go well. Or it could just be a nod to the intense attention the story is getting nearly everywhere else.

The KCNA report noted the summit is being held "under the great attention and expectation of the whole world."

It also offered a list of Pyongyang's talking points, saying Kim and Trump will exchange "wide-ranging and profound views" on establishing a new relationship, the issue of building a "permanent and durable peace mechanism" and realizing the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Hong Kong sentences activist Leung to 6 years in prison

HONG KONG (AP)—A Hong Kong court has sentenced activist Edward Leung to six years in prison for his part in a violent night-long clash with police over illegal street food hawkers two years ago. Leung, 26, was among a generation of young political activists who emerged after 2014′s failed nonviolent protests over Beijing's decision to restrict elections. His sentence shows the hard line authorities are taking toward those advocating for more open politics in the former British colony. Chinese President Xi Jinping warned in a speech last year marking 20 years since the city became a semi-autonomous region of China that any activities in Hong Kong seen as threatening China's sovereignty and stability would be "absolutely impermissible." Under the "one country, two systems" blueprint, Hong Kong retains civil liberties including free speech.

Pilot rescued after US F-15 crashes off Okinawa, Japan

TOKYO (AP)—The U.S. military says an Air Force F-15C fighter jet has crashed in waters south of Okinawa in southern Japan. The Air Force said in a statement Monday that the pilot ejected and has been rescued. The cause of the 6:30 a.m. crash is under investigation. The F-15 from the Air Force's Kadena Air Base in Okinawa was on a routine training mission. The U.S. has a heavy military presence in Okinawa that has been the source of friction with the local government and some residents. About half of the 50,000 American troops in Japan are stationed on the southern island.

Myanmar lawyer wins $1.1M Aurora humanitarian prize

YEREVAN, Armenia (AP)—A lawyer from Myanmar who has worked to promote the rights of the country's persecuted Rohingya minority has been awarded the $1.1-million Aurora Prize for humanitarianism. Kyaw Hia Aung on Sunday received the prize, which was established on behalf of Armenian survivors of a mass killing by Ottoman Turks. An estimated 1.5 million Armenians were killed in 1915-23 in what many historians regard as the first genocide of the 20th century, a claim that Turkey vehemently rejects. Aung, a lawyer, has worked for decades for Myanmar's Rohingyas. Some 700,000 Rohingyas have fled to makeshift refugee camps in Bangladesh. He has served 12 years in prison for his work, the foundation said. The prize includes $100,000 for Aung and $1 million for him to donate to organizations of his choice.

World

Migrants are saved, but stranded at sea by Italian politics

ROME (AP)—A private rescue ship carrying 629 migrants remained at sea Sunday evening after more than a day of not receiving permission to dock in either Italy or the small Mediterranean island nation of Malta.

Aid group SOS Mediterraneee said the passengers on its ship, the Aquarius, included 400 people who were picked up by the Italian navy, that country's coast guard and private cargo ships and transferred. The rescue ship's crew itself pulled 229 migrants from the water or from traffickers' unseaworthy boats Saturday night, including 123 unaccompanied minors and seven pregnant women.

The Aquarius and its passengers were caught up in a crackdown promoted by the right-wing partner in Italy's new populist government, which has vowed to stop the country from becoming the "refugee camp of Europe."

Italian Premier Giuseppe Conte said he personally contacted Malta's prime minister, Joseph Muscat, to "explicitly at least take on the human assistance of persons in difficulty aboard the Aquarius."

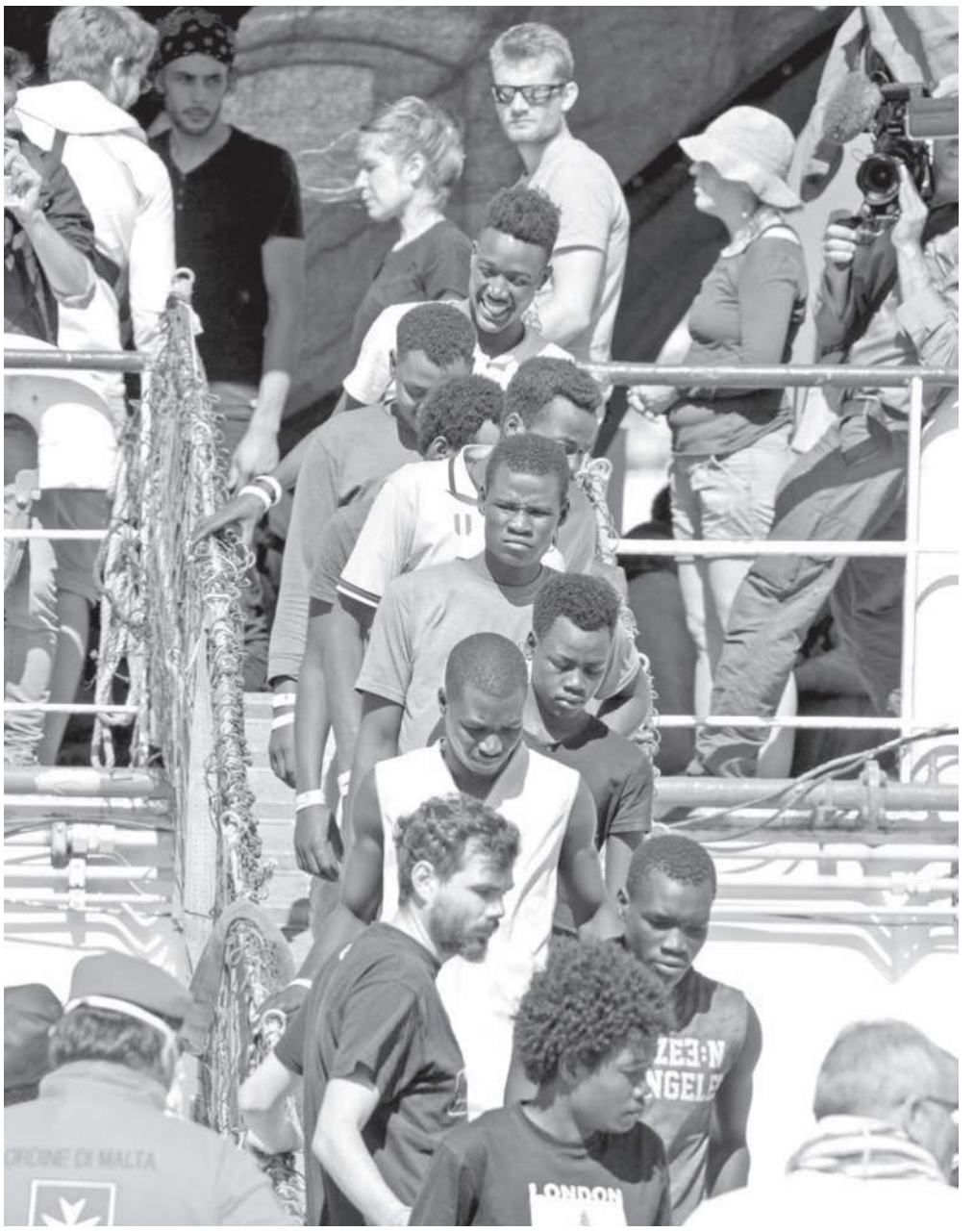
But Muscat, "while comprehending the situation," rebuffed him, Conte said in a Facebook post late Sunday. That stance "confirms the latest unwillingness of Malta and, thus, of Europe, to intervene and take care of the emergency."

Like Malta, Italy didn't appear to be budging.

Italy's firebrand interior minister, Matteo Salvini, who leads the anti-immigrant League party in the governing coalition, has long railed against what he depicts as Europe's failure to show solidarity with Italy during the migrant crisis in recent years.

"Starting today, Italy, too, begins to say NO to the trafficking of human beings, NO to the business of clandestine immigration," Salvini tweeted Sunday.

After leading an hours-long meeting with his coalition leaders Sunday night at the premier's office, Conte said Italy was sending two motorboats with medical staff aboard in case the migrants needed help but he made no mention of how the Aquarius might ever get into port.



AP

Migrants disembark at the Reggio Calabria harbor, Southern Italy, Saturday, June 9, 2018.

Salvini and Italian Transportation Minister Danilo Toninelli, who is part of the 5-Star Movement faction in the new government, said in a joint statement Sunday that it was Malta's responsibility to "open its ports for the hundreds of the rescued on the NGO ship Aquarius."

"The island can't continue to turn the other way," the ministers said. "The Mediterranean is the sea of all the countries that face it, and it (Malta) can't imagine that Italy will continue to face this giant phenomenon in solitude."

Earlier, Malta said in a statement that the Aquarius took on the passengers in waters controlled by Libya and where Italian authorities in Rome coordinate search-and-rescue operations.

The Maltese Rescue Coordination Center "is neither the competent nor the coordinating authority," the statement said.

SOS Mediterranean spokeswoman Mathilde Auvillain told The Associated Press the ship was "heading north following instructions received after the rescues and transfers" Saturday night. The Rome-based rescue coordination center gave the instructions.

The aid group said in a statement it had taken "good note" of Salvini's stance, as reported earlier by Italian media. It added that the Aquarius "is still waiting for definitive instructions regarding the port of safety."

SOS Mediterranee said Maltese search-and-rescue authorities were contacted by their Italian counterparts "to find the best solution for the well-being and safety" of the people on the ship.

Farther west in the Mediterranean, Spain's maritime rescue service saved 334 migrants and recovered four bodies from boats it intercepted trying to reach Europe over the weekend. The rescue service said its patrol craft reached nine different boats carrying migrants that had left from Africa on Saturday and early Sunday.

Poll shows deep divisions between Israelis and American Jews

JERUSALEM (AP)—An opinion poll published Sunday shows deep divisions between Israelis and American Jews, particularly in relation to President Donald Trump, highlighting the growing rift between the world's two largest Jewish communities.

The survey of the American Jewish Committee showed 77 percent of Israelis approved of the president's handling of U.S.-Israel relations, while only 34 percent of American Jews did. Fifty-seven percent of U.S. Jews disapproved, while only 10 percent of Israelis did.

The polarizing Trump recently recognized Jerusalem as Israel's capital and relocated the American Embassy there, upending decades of U.S. foreign policy and an international consensus that the city's fate should be decided through peace negotiations. The Palestinians, who claim east Jerusalem as their future capital, were outraged by the move and cut all contacts with the U.S. in response.

Eighty-five percent of Israelis supported the embassy move, while only 46 percent of American Jews did.

The AJC surveyed 1,000 Israelis and Americans and had a margin of error of 3.1 and 3.9 percent, respectively.

The survey was released ahead of the opening of the AJC Global Forum in Jerusalem, which Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will address later Sunday.

Netanyahu has forged a close bond with Trump, and their hard-line policies toward the Palestinians have strong support in Israel and among its Republican backers in the U.S. But most American Jews are Democrats who are highly critical of Trump and Netanyahu. Experts have been warning for years that the two communities are drifting in opposite directions politically, undermining the kinship between the two groups, which make up the vast majority of Jews in the world.

The poll showed 59 percent of Americans favoring the establishment of a Palestinian state alongside Israel but only 44 percent of Israelis supporting the idea.

The communities share similar views on the importance of good ties between the "extended family." But they differ greatly on matters of religion and state, particularly on the ultra-Orthodox monopoly over religious affairs in Israel. The vast majority of American Jews identify as either Reform or Conservative, the more liberal streams of Judaism that have a very small foothold in Israel.

Iran, spurned by US, angrily watches Trump-North Korea talks

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—For Iran, the so-called "Axis of Evil" has boiled down to a party of one, as President Donald Trump prepares for direct talks with North Korea.

With Saddam Hussein overthrown and Kim Jong Un now preparing for a planned meeting in Singapore with Trump, Iran remains the last renegade among former President George W. Bush's grouping of nations opposed to the U.S.

For those in Tehran, whether hard-liners, reformists or people simply trying to get by in Iran's worsening economy, it's head-spinning, especially after seeing Trump pull America out of the nuclear deal with world powers.

"I am buying my insulin shots at double the price only because of Trump's decision," fumed Najmeh Songhori, a 35-year-old diabetic mother of two standing in front of a pharmacy in central Tehran. "Meanwhile he is trying to reach a deal with North Korea. Who is going to trust him?"

It wasn't supposed to be like this. Excited crowds flooded the streets after the 2015 nuclear deal that Iran struck with world powers, including the U.S. under President Barack Obama.

The deal saw Iran agree to limit uranium enrichment in its nuclear program, which the West feared could be used to build a nuclear weapon. For Iran, which long has maintained its atomic program was for peaceful purposes, the deal took the shackles of sanctions off its economy and opened up its oil sales abroad.

No one believed it would bring massive change to Iran, which remains a Shiite theocracy overseen by Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. But many hoped it would encourage further negotiations and normalize Iran's relationships with the wider world.

Then came Trump, who campaigned pledging to tear up the nuclear deal. Once elected, he included Iran in his travel bans, blocking Iranians from traveling to the U.S., home to a large Iranian community.

Then on May 8, Trump followed through on his threat and pulled America out of the nuclear agreement, dooming billions of dollars of business deals, including Boeing sales.

"At the point when the United States had maximum leverage, this disastrous deal gave this regime—and it's a regime of great terror—many billions of dollars, some of it in actual cash—a great embarrassment to me as a citizen and to all citizens of the United States," Trump said then.

But at the same time, Trump had traded his criticism of Kim Jong Un, a leader he once derided as "Little Rocket Man" on Twitter, for hopes of a one-on-one meeting.

"I think Trump lost the chance to work with Iran," said Mansour Ahmadpour, a 43-year-old taxi driver in downtown Tehran. "I learned in my life that leaving for another table is a sign of weakness when your partners are waiting for you."

Iran may have lost in the arrangement too. United Nations reports and Western countries say Pyongyang sold ballistic missile technology to Iran, helping it raise cash to avoid international sanctions. Iran has never acknowledged purchasing missile technology from North Korea, but hard-liners within Iran long have applauded Pyongyang's tough line against the U.S.

Focus

Isolated Kim takes big gamble leaving home for Trump summit

By FOSTER KLUG
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AP
North Korean leader Kim Jong Un meets with Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong at the Istana or presidential palace on Sunday, June 10, 2018, in Singapore.

SINGAPORE (AP)—Spare a moment, as you anticipate one of the most unusual summits in modern history, to consider North Korea's leader as he left the all-encompassing bubble of his locked-down stronghold of Pyongyang on Sunday and stepped off a jet onto Singapore soil for his planned sit-down with President Donald Trump on Tuesday.

There's just no recent precedent for the gamble Kim Jong Un is taking.

As far as we know, his despot father only traveled out of the country by train, and rarely at that, because of fears of assassination. Kim, up until his recent high-profile summit with South Korea's president on the southern side of their shared border, has usually hunkered down behind his vast propaganda and security services, or made short trips to autocrat-friendly China.

While Singapore has authoritarian leanings, it is still a thriving bastion of capitalism and wealth, and Kim will be performing his high-stakes diplomatic tight-rope walk in front of 3,000 international journalists, including a huge contingent from the ultra-aggressive South Korean press—sometimes referred to by Pyongyang as "reptile media"—two of whom were arrested by Singapore police investigating a report of trespassing at the residence of the North Korean ambassador.

While he famously attended school in Switzerland, traveling this far as supreme leader is an entirely different matter for someone used to being the most revered, most protected, most deferred to human in his country of 25 million. Kim is, essentially, upsetting two decades of carefully choreographed North Korean statecraft and stepping into the unknown.

There's wild speculation about how Kim will perform on the world stage, although one question was answered Sunday: His grim-faced, well-muscled bodyguards marched alongside his armored limousine at one point in Singapore, just as they did when he met the South Korean leader in April. But amid the curiosity is an even more fundamental question: Why is he taking this risk at all?

Here's a look:

THE LOGISTICS

First the nuts and bolts: How do you protect what many North Koreans consider their single most precious resource, the third member of the Kim family to rule and a direct descendant of North Korea's worshipped founder Kim Il Sung?

Hundreds of North Korean security experts have no doubt been up nights wondering how to safeguard Kim Jong Un since Trump shocked the world by accepting the North's invitation to meet.

Kim arrived Sunday on a Chinese plane, not his official plane, which is called "Chammae-1" and named after the goshawk, North Korea's national bird.

Kim may have shipped over the massive bulletproof and fireproof limousine that became a social media sensation when Kim was shown being driven across the border between the Koreas during his first summit with South Korean President Moon Jae-in, in April, with a dozen staunch bodyguards encircling the auto. He could be seen speeding through Singapore on Sunday in a black limousine adorned with large North Korean flags.

Singapore's The Straits Times reported earlier this month that the Singapore government declared that four black BMW sedans with armored bodies that can withstand gunshots, explosives and grenades were exempt from certain traffic rules through June 30. The newspaper said the vehicles weren't from a local authorized dealer, which suggests the cars were brought in specifically for the summit and may be used by Kim.

Kim's bodyguards traveled with him, providing trusted protection to back up local Singapore security who were controlling the perimeter and crowds,

One benefit of Singapore from the North Korean point of view is that there will probably not be any anti-North Korea protests during Kim's stay. "Singapore is like a police state. How can such rallies take place there? Anyone involved in rallies would be arrested," said Choi Kang, vice president of Seoul's Asan Institute for Policy Studies.

Kim arrived Sunday at the St. Regis hotel, where his close aide has been based as he leads a North Korean advance team arranging security and logistics details. South Korea's Hankook Ilbo reported that Singapore recommended the St. Regis, which hosted Chinese President Xi Jinping during his 2015 summit with Taiwanese President Ma Ying-jeou, because it can be easily secured.

WHY'S HE TAKING THE RISK?

The short answer might be that, despite his safety worries, Kim could end up getting much more out of this summit than he will have to give up.

The standard thinking goes that he needs quick help to stabilize and then rebuild an economy that has suffered amid a decades-long pursuit of nuclear bombs, and that the North Koreans see a unique chance to win concessions, legitimacy and protection from a meeting with a highly unconventional U.S. president who's willing to consider options past American leaders would not.

Kim also gets an "obvious and immediate win" by simply meeting with Trump, writes Joseph Yun, who was the top U.S. diplomat on North Korea until March.

It's "a sign of recognition that the North Koreans have sought for decades. In my meetings with North Korea's foreign ministry, its officials have repeatedly emphasized that only a leader-to-leader dialogue could break the nuclear impasse. At the root of this desire lies their central concern: regime survival," he wrote.

The summit has been portrayed as a "get to know you" meeting.

"That's a perfect deal for North Korea. They pocket all of it and lose essentially nothing," said Christopher Hill, President George W. Bush's lead nuclear negotiator with the North. "The North Koreans have already gotten what they need out of this. Their only issue is how much they have to give up. From what I can tell from (Trump's recent comments at the White House), they're not going to be asked to do much."

Kim may also be seeing the gamble in a light never considered by his autocratic father and grandfather because of "his determination to modernize North Korea," according to Ryan Haas, an Asia expert at the John L. Thornton China Center.

"Kim confronts rising expectations from within at the same time that he contends with ever-tightening sanctions from abroad," Haas wrote. "So, according to this logic, in order to satisfy internal expectations, he will need to reduce external pressure, and this dynamic could push Kim down the path of denuclearization."

Haas offers a useful warning, though, as people around the world settle in to watch the show in Singapore: "Virtually no North Korea analyst inside or outside of the U.S. government" expects Kim to actually give up his nukes.

Overdrive

AUTO REVIEW

The 2018 Chevrolet Traverse makes an ideal mobile family room

The 2018 Chevrolet Traverse High Country mid-size SUV drives onto the stage Monday, January 9, 2017 during its unveiling at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit, Mich.

TNS

By LARRY PRINTZ
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Most Americans are fairly fat.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the average American man is 5'9", weighs 195.5 pounds and has a waist size of nearly 40 inches. The average femme fatale is 5'4", weighs 166 pounds and has a waist slightly more than 37 inches. Clearly, the only weight watching we're doing is watching it grow.

This means that the small, front-wheel-drive cars that the EPA would prefer that you drive don't provide the space, comfort and utility that we need. And with climate change providing weather scenarios that seem out of the norm, is it any wonder that Americans now prefer crossovers to compact or midsize sedans?

That said, the redesigned 2018 Traverse offers the space for those who live large. With slightly more than 157 cubic feet of space, this cavernous three-row crossover can carry up to eight passengers and 23 cubic feet of lifestyle debris. Legroom in the first two rows is generous, while the third row proves to be adequate for those limber enough to reach it. That shouldn't come as a surprise; its 204.3-inch length is longer than almost any sedan. And the dual sunroofs lend the cabin an even more spacious feel.

Better yet, second row passengers get climate controls, seat heaters and manually operated side shades. But it's only the beginning of the little touches that make the Traverse easy to live with. Up front, you'll find the instrument panel is logically designed, with controls clustered by function. Chevrolet's easy-to-use MyLink infotainment system comes with standard Apple CarPlay and Android Auto. The screen moves at the touch of a button, revealing a hidden storage compartment with built-in USB port. There's a 10-speaker Bose audio system, USB and audio input ports, and an integrated WiFi hot spot. In the center console, you'll find a wireless charging pad for your smartphone. And the front seats are ventilated and heated. There's even a heated steering wheel and three-zone automatic climate control.

Offered in L, LS, LT, RS, Premier and High Country models, the front-wheel-drive Traverse can be fitted with optional all-wheel drive, although it's standard on the top-of-the-line High Country model.

All models are powered by a standard 310-horsepower 3.6-liter V-6 and nine-speed automatic transmission except on the RS, which gets a 257-horsepower 2.0-liter turbocharged four-cylinder engine. Given the Traverse's two-ton curb weight, the turbo engine's rating seems meager, although there wasn't a chance to test one. On the other hand, the V-6 provided the power necessary to move with some authority. Power delivery was strong and steady, with the transmission providing timely, seamless shifts. A stop/start system, which shuts off the engine when stopped for traffic lights to save fuel, works imperceptibly. However, fuel economy was disappointing on the all-wheel drive Premier test vehicle. Although EPA rated at 18 mpg city, 27 mpg highway with front-wheel drive and 17 city, 25 highway with all-wheel drive, the Traverse's fuel economy never broke 20 mpg, with an overall fuel economy rating of 18.8 mpg in an even mix of suburban parkway and highway driving.

What didn't disappoint was this crossover's dynamics. The Traverse remains poised no matter what you throw at it, with a comfortably compliant ride balanced with an agility that's surprising for such a big beast. Body lean is evident in corners, but comes on gradually. Despite its size, it never feels unwieldy or clumsy, something that can't be said of the Tahoe, which is nearly as long and almost two inches wider than the Traverse.

As you'd expect on a family vehicle, the Traverse can be fitted with forward automatic braking, forward collision alert, and lane keep assist with lane departure warning, however they're only offered in option packages on higher trim levels.

Nevertheless, the Traverse makes a strong case as an ideal mobile family room, one wrapped in sophisticated, handsome sheet metal and fitted with the many options that make family hauling more pleasant.

And it has the space to handle the average American's ever expanding waistlines—and expectations.

NUTS & BOLTS

2018 CHEVROLET TRAVERSE

- **Base prices:** $30,875-$53,595
- **Engine:** 3.6-liter DOHC V6
- **Horsepower:** 310
- **Torque:** 266 pound-feet
- **EPA fuel economy (city/highway):** 18/27 (FWD), 17/25 (AWD)
- **Wheelbase:** 120.9 inches
- **Length:** 204.3 inches
- **Cargo capacity:** 23-98.3 cubic feet
- **Towing capacity:** 5,000 pounds
- **Curb weight:** 4,362 pounds
- **NHTSA safety rating:** 5 stars

Under the Hood: Making sense of those numbers on a tire

Q I just started shopping for new tires and am confused by all the numbers used to list each tire. What do the numbers 98V mean? They're listed right after the P225/60VR16 on the tire I'm considering.

— Warren M.

A Good question, Warren. Let's look at all the numbers you mentioned. P indicates the tire is intended for use on a passenger vehicle (LT is light truck, ST is for special trailer, T is for temporary/spare use, and European spec tires have no letter). 225 is the section width of the tire in millimeters, and 60 is the aspect ratio (height/width—a lower number is shorter-wider). V is the speed rating and R means this as a radial tire. And finally, 16 is the wheel diameter in inches.

The 98V, listed after the above groups of digits indicates the load index (weight capacity) and speed rating of the tire. The number 98 indicates the tire can safely carry—when properly inflated—1653 pounds. This scale ranges from a low of 60 (551#) to a high of 114 (2601#) for passenger tires. The speed rating ranges from the letter L (75 mph) to Z (149+ mph). In general, the higher the letter, the better the rating. For reasons I can't fathom, the letter H (130 mph) is inserted between U and V of the scale. Also, W and Y speed ratings are actually higher, and more specific than Z, at 168 and 186 mph.

Tire age can be determined by locating the DOT (Department of Transportation) tire information number; (DOT followed by approximately 12 digits). The final four digits are the week and year the tire was manufactured (3114 would be the 31st week of 2014). This is listed only on one side of the tire, hopefully facing out! Maximum safe tire life is approximately 10 years, possibly sooner. You may also see the letters M and S listed (M/S, M+S, MS), indicating the tire's tread is optimized for all season (including snow) use.

Elsewhere on the tire are the UTQG (uniform tire quality grade) letters, indicating a tread wear, wet traction, and temperature rating. Expected tread life is assigned a number ranging between 100 and 500. Tires are tested by the manufacturer relative to a baseline of 100. A 400-rated tire could be expected to last twice as long as a 200 rated tire. It's best to take this number with a grain of salt, as the computation process leaves plenty of wiggle room. Keep in mind also that many factors affect actual tire life, such as inflation pressure, wheel alignment, vehicle load, shock absorber condition, road conditions and driving habits. Straight-line wet-surface traction is also assigned a letter, with AA being the very highest, then A, B and C being the lowest. The tire's resistance to heat is the final letter, with A again being the best and C the worst.

Confused? My head is spinning as well. A good starting point when shopping for tires is the tire information placard (sticker) on your vehicle's door or door post, or the owner's manual. The original tire specifications are listed for your vehicle and it's important that a replacement tire equals or exceeds them. For a wonderfully informative source of tire information, go to www.tirerack.com, select Research and Advice, and Tech Center. I find and learn new things every time I go there!

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
Tribune News Service

Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at bradbergholdt@gmail.com; he cannot make personal replies.

Life & Style

'The Band's Visit' dances away with a leading 10 Tonys

The American, grown-up musical "The Band's Visit" outmuscled the acclaimed and sprawling British import "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child" for the most Tony Awards on Sunday, capturing 10 statuettes, including best musical, on a night where the theme of acceptance flowed through the telecast.

"The Band's Visit" is based on a 2007 Israeli film of the same name and centers on members of an Egyptian police orchestra booked to play a concert at an Israeli city who accidentally end up in the wrong town. Its embrace of foreign cultures working together found a sweet spot with Tony voters.

"In 'The Band's Visit,' music gives people hope and makes borders disappear," producer Orin Wolf said upon accepting the best new musical crown, saying it offers a message of unity in a world that "more and more seems bent on amplifying our differences."

Tony Shalhoub, the "Monk" star who won as best leading man in a musical for his work on "The Band's Visit," connected the win to his father's 1920 immigration from Lebanon to New York's Ellis Island at age 8. "Tonight, I celebrate him and all of those in his family who journeyed before him and with him and after him," he said.

The show's Katrina Lenk, who won best actress in a musical, said the production "filled her stupid little heart with so much joy." She dedicated her award in part to the iconic Egyptian singer Umm Kulthum.

"The Band's Visit" also won statuettes for best direction, orchestration, sound design, best book and score, lighting and featured actor Ari'el Stachel, who gave a heartfelt speech about his past.

"For so many years of my life I pretended I was not a Middle Eastern person," he said, addressing his parents in the audience. He thanked the creators of the show "for being courageous for telling a small story about Arabs and Israelis getting along at a time that we need that more than ever."

The show's director, David Cromer, said the musical is also about loneliness and despair, and asked everyone to reach out to anyone for whom "despair is overwhelming."

The two-part spectacle "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child" captured six Tonys, including best play, book, lighting, sound design, orchestrations and director for John Tiffany, who asked the crowd to sing "Happy Birthday" to his boyfriend. They obliged.

A British revival of "Angels in America," Tony Kushner's monumental, two-part drama about AIDS, life and love during the 1980s, grabbed three big awards, including best play revival and acting trophies for Andrew Garfield and Nathan Lane.

Orin Wolf, center, and the cast and crew of "The Band's Visit" accept the award for best musical at the 72nd annual Tony Awards at Radio City Music Hall on Sunday, June 10, 2018, in New York. AP

Kushner took the stage and pointed out there were 21 weeks until the midterm elections in the United States: "Twenty-one weeks to save our democracy, to heal our country and to heal our planet."

Garfield won his first Tony, for best leading actor in a play, and dedicated the win to the LGBTQ community, who he said fought and died for the right to love. He said the play is a rejection of bigotry, shame and oppression.

"We are all sacred and we all belong," Garfield said. He then referenced last week's U.S. Supreme Court decision which ruled in favor of a baker's right to deny a gay couple a wedding cake based on his beliefs.

"(Let's) just bake a cake for everyone who wants a cake to be baked," he said, to rousing applause. Lane, who won for best featured actor in a play, said "Angels" still speaks to society in the midst of "political insanity."

In one of the ceremony's most mesmerizing moments, Melody Herzfeld, the heroic drama teacher who nurtured many of the young people demanding change following the February school shooting in Parkland, Florida, was honored from the Tony Award stage.

Herzfeld, the one-woman drama department at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, was cheered by the crowd at Radio City Music Hall. Herzfeld saved 65 lives by barricading students into a small classroom closet on Valentine's Day when police say a former student went on a school rampage, killing 17 people.

She then later encouraged many of her pupils to lead the nationwide movement for gun reform. Members of Herzfeld's drama department took to the Tony stage to serenade her with "Seasons of Love" from the musical "Rent." ***(AP)***

Mindy Kaling jokes about Trump, toilet plungers at Dartmouth

HANOVER, N.H. (AP)—Mindy Kaling took on President Donald Trump in her Sunday commencement address to Dartmouth College graduates, suggesting he may have "tweeted us into war" with Wakanda, the fictional country from "Black Panther."

"I'll tell you my secret, the one thing that keeps me going, my superpower: delusion," Kaling said in her speech amid laughter. "This is something I share with the president, a fact that is both horrifying and interesting."

The 38-year-old actor, writer and comedian graduated from the Ivy League school in 2001. She received an honorary degree during the ceremony.

Kaling remarked that Trump is a testament to how far someone can go if they believe they are the smartest, most successful person in the world. She encouraged the graduates to have "insane confidence" in themselves, even if it's not real.

A few years after her own graduation, Kaling became a writer and producer for "The Office," and played Kelly Kapoor on the show. She was the first woman of color to create, write, produce and star in a comedy show. That show, "The Mindy Project," ran for six seasons. She has also written a pair of best-selling memoirs.

Her new film, the female-led "Ocean's 8," opened at number one this weekend.

Her experiences at Dartmouth have occasionally served as fodder for her writing and comedy. During her time there, she majored in play-writing and was the author of a popular comic strip on campus called "Badly Drawn Girl." She tweeted a picture of herself outside her old dorm room Saturday night.

Disneyland Paris enters Marvel universe with Avengers theme

CHESSY, France (AP)—Helicopters, concept cars and SWAT teams shrouded in smoke heralded the launch of the first Avengers-themed season at Disneyland Paris following the announcement of plans for a $2.5 billion park expansion that will feature Marvel superheroes.

Movie and sports stars, including French Olympians Teddy Riner and Camille Lacourt, attended an official opening Saturday night for the season that brings the Disneyland resorts a step closer to merging its traditional cast of characters with the Marvel universe.

It follows similar moves in Hong Kong Disneyland as well as in the Disney California Adventure.

"We are delighted to have the Avengers assemble in Disneyland Paris for the first time ever," Euro Disney President Catherine Powell said. "They're here to delight thrill and surprise you with incredible action and amazing special effects."

Actors glided down ropes from a hovering helicopter before Spiderman, the Hulk, Ironman, Thor, Captain America and other Marvel characters took the stage for several shows.

"It's really spectacular," said "The Beach" actress Virginie Ledoyen, who watched the action.

Behind the special effects and celebrity guests were hard-negotiated business plans.

The Paris park's expansion into Marvel terrain was unveiled earlier this year following a meeting between French President Emmanuel Macron and Disney Chairman Robert Iger.

Disney Group said the makeover of Walt Disney Studios Park, one of the two theme parks that make up Disneyland Paris, will be rolled out in phases beginning in 2020. It includes three new areas based on Marvel superheroes as well as the Frozen and Star Wars franchises.

The Hotel New York will be redesigned to resemble the architecture and decor favored by Tony Stark, aka Ironman.

Analysts see the plans as a major area of investment that will aim to drive long-term growth for Disney, which acquired Marvel in 2009.

"The massive Marvel collaboration and $2 billion plus investment speaks to Disney's positive view for the future of this all-important European asset as it further drives mindshare among consumers," GBH Insights analyst Daniel Ives said in an interview.

"While Disneyland Paris has seen its shares of speed bumps from an attendance perspective post-recession and Paris attacks, its appears to be on a healthy trajectory," he added.

Prince Harry and Meghan Markle to visit Australia, Fiji

LONDON (AP)—Kensington Palace says Prince Harry, and his wife, the former actress Meghan Markle, will be touring Australia, Fiji, the Kingdom of Tonga and New Zealand this fall.

The royal couple, now known as the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, will be making the tour around the time of the Invictus Games in Sydney, which is set for Oct. 20-27.

Harry, a British military veteran who served in Afghanistan, created the Paralympic-style games as a way to inspire wounded soldiers toward recovery. About 550 competitors from 17 countries competed in 12 sports during the event in Canada last year.

The couple joined the pageantry Saturday of the annual Trooping the Color ceremony in London for the first time since their wedding three weeks ago. The event celebrates Queen Elizabeth II's official birthday.

'Ocean's 8' opens with $41.5M to top weekend

NEW YORK (AP)—"Ocean's 8," the female-fronted overhaul of the starry heist franchise, opened with an estimated $41.5 million at the box office, taking the weekend's top spot from the fast-falling "Solo: A Star Wars Story."

At a lower price point and in less fanboy-guarded franchise, "Ocean's 8"—despite ho-hum reviews—found nothing like the stormy reception than the female-led "Ghostbusters" reboot did on the same weekend two years ago.

Made for approximately $70 million, "Ocean's 8" and its cast featuring Sandra Bullock, Cate Blanchett and Anne Hathaway, set an opening-weekend best for the franchise, not accounting for inflation. The three previous "Ocean's" films—starring Brad Pitt, George Clooney and Matt Damon, and based on the 1960 original "Ocean's 11," with Frank Sinatra—all debuted with between $36-39 million in the last decade.

"Ocean's 8," also starring Mindy Kaling, Sarah Paulson, Awkwafina, Rihanna and Helena Bonham Carter, drew a largely female audience—69 percent—for a result that slightly surpassed expectations.

"We thought we'd come in in the $35-40 (million) range," said Warner Bros. distribution chief Jeff Goldstein. "Number one, it's fun. Number two, it hits an underserved audience. Unfortunately, there is just a lack of stories that are aimed right at women."

Yet the weekend's three new wide releases were all female fronted.

The horror thriller "Hereditary," starring Toni Collette, debuted with $13 million, setting a new company record for A24, the indie distributor behind releases like "The Witch" and "Moonlight." The feature-film directing debut of Ari Aster, "Hereditary" has received rave reviews and been hailed as the year's scariest movie since its debut at the Sundance Film Festival. Either from disappointment or simply because they were stunned from fear, audiences gave "Hereditary"—about a family cursed after the death of its matriarch—a D-plus CinemaScore.

This image released by Warner Bros. shows, from foreground left, Sandra Bullock Sarah Paulson, Rihanna, Cate Blanchett and Awkwafina in a scene from "Ocean's 8."

Less successful was "Hotel Artemis," starring Jodie Foster. The Global Road release, also starring Sterling K. Brown, Dave Bautista and Charlie Day, flopped with $3.2 million in 2,407 theaters. Set in a near-future Los Angeles, "Hotel Artemis" is about a members-only hospital for criminals.

Coming between more massive blockbusters like the recent "Solo" and the upcoming "Incredibles 2" and "Jurassic World," the weekend was down about 20 percent from last year, according to comScore, when "Wonder Woman" was setting box-office records. But some of the story was still the same.

"There's a lot of women-powered revenue at the box office in the heat of the summer season," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for comScore. "Films featuring female leads are killing it at the box office, but that's been going on for quite a while."

One of the early summer's more breakout hits has been the Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg documentary "RBG," which has made $9.1 million in six weeks of release through Sunday.

Opening this weekend was another documentary that may prove a similar sensation: the Fred Rogers documentary "Won't You Be My Neighbor." The Focus Features release grossed $470,000 in 29 theaters for a per-theater average of about $16,000. The film, 99 percent fresh on Rotten Tomatoes, has been acclaimed for its portrait of the man behind "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood." Focus said two thirds of the documentary's audience was under the age of 45.

1. **"Ocean's 8,"** $41.5 million ($12.2 million international).
2. **"Solo: A Star Wars Story,"** $15.2 million.
3. **"Deadpool 2,"** $13.7 million ($18.5 million international).
4. **"Hereditary,"** $13 million ($3.5 million international).
5. **"Avengers: Infinity War,"** $6.8 million ($10.9 million international).
6. **"Adrift,"** $5.1 million.
7. **"Book Club,"** $4.2 million.
8. **"Hotel Artemis,"** $3.2 million.
9. **"Upgrade,"** $2.2 million.
10. **"Life of the Party,"** $2.1 million.

Organizers say Burt Reynolds will attend Georgia film fest

VALDOSTA, Ga. (AP)—Organizers of a film festival say they're bringing Burt Reynolds to south Georgia.

The Valdosta Daily Times reports local production company RKDS Entertainment and Media announced the actor will appear at its RKDS Film Festival on July 12. The studio's Roy Kirkland says Valdosta Mayor John Gale plans to declare the date Burt Reynolds Day and the actor will receive the key to the city.

The festival will also feature screenings of three of Reynolds' movies—"Smokey and the Bandit," "The Last Movie Star" and the south Georgia-filmed "Gator."

Ticket prices to attend the three-day festival range from $10 to $150.

Vince Vaughn DUI bust caught on officers' body cameras

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Actor Vince Vaughn was arrested Sunday on suspicion of drunken driving after being stopped at a sobriety checkpoint in a Southern California beach town, police said.

Vaughn, 48, was busted early in the morning in Manhattan Beach after failing a field sobriety test that was captured with officers' body cameras, Sgt. Tim Zins said.

Vaughn is best known for roles in comedies like "Dodgeball" and "Wedding Crashers," but has landed more dramatic parts in recent years such as playing a drill sergeant in the Oscar-winning "Hacksaw Ridge."

A passenger in Vaughn's car was arrested for public intoxication. Vaughn's vehicle was impounded.

Both men were also cited for delaying an investigation. Police previously described the allegation as "resisting arrest," which falls under the same section of the penal code, Zins said.

Vaughn chose to submit a blood sample rather than a Breathalyzer to test his blood-alcohol level, Zins said. The results were not immediately known.

Vaughn, who lives in Manhattan Beach, was released later in the morning and given a citation to appear in court. No information was given on when he is due in Los Angeles County Superior Court in Torrance.

Zins said he couldn't comment more on the arrest until prosecutors review the case and decide whether to file charges.

Alan Nierob, a spokesman for Vaughn, said he had no comment.

The arrest was first reported by TMZ.

Dad's rocky relationship makes life a bumpy ride

DEAR ABBY: I'm turning 17 and live with my dad and his girlfriend. They have broken up four times, causing my dad and me to retreat to the basement where we live the peaceful, happy life we did before he met her.

When they first started dating, she was very nice, and I liked her. However, because my mom is gone, she decided to assume the role of "mother" after they moved in together. I don't think she has the right to make decisions about me just because I no longer have a mother.

Dad has told me repeatedly that he doesn't want to continue a relationship with her, but she always manipulates him into getting back together. She treats him terribly, and it breaks my heart. I know he deserves better. His personality changes when he's with her. He gets mean and blames their problems on me because that's what she does.

I know I'm not responsible for this situation, but she makes me feel that way. I need stability, and I just want my dad back. What should I do?

TEEN IN TURMOIL

DEAR TEEN: What's going on is not your fault. You should not assume responsibility for their problems because you can't fix them.

Talk with your father about how you are being made to feel. That he and this woman have broken up four times should have given him a clue that his relationship with her isn't a healthy one—for him or for you. Your father is the adult in the family, and it is up to him to deal with this—not you. Hiding in the basement isn't the answer.

DEAR ABBY: I have been having boundary issues with my neighbors and their children. We have different parenting styles. They are hands-off, free-range parents. I keep an eye on my daughter. They're all around the age of 5.

Problem is, every time I take my daughter outside their two children immediately run over to play with her. I'm seven months pregnant, and I do not want to be the neighborhood baby sitter! If any of those kids runs toward the road, I can't chase them down. I don't want to send my daughter to their yard to play because they have a pool, my daughter doesn't know how to swim and no one watches these kids.

I feel like a prisoner in my own home. I'd like to enjoy the nice weather alone with my daughter once in a while. She loves playing with them, but they just want to play with her toys—not her—and it almost always ends up with her in tears. What can I do?

TEARS IN CONNECTICUT

DEAR TEARS: Talk to the parents! Explain that you would like to spend time outdoors with your little girl, and you are not prepared to watch their children. You should also mention that when their children run over to play, it's not with your daughter but with her toys, which hurts her feelings.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

P.S. If your neighbors' pool is not fenced and any of the neighborhood children should fall in, the legal liability would be theirs. There is something known as an "attractive nuisance." An unsecured swimming pool would be an example.

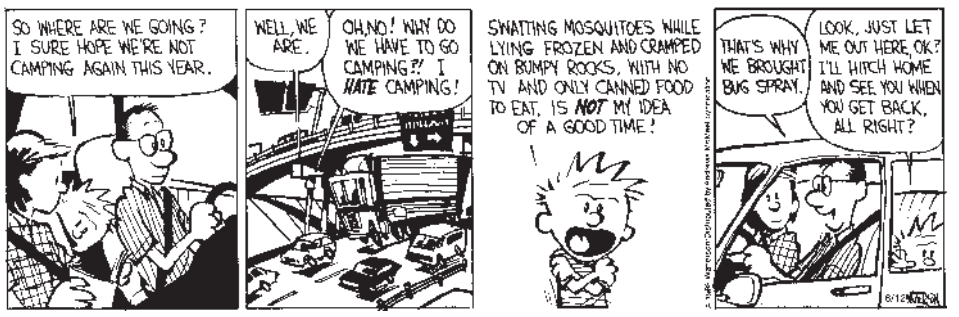
READER ALERT! If you know a student who would like to enter the $5,000 Dear Abby College Columnist Scholarship contest, see the information on DearAbby.com/scholarship and learn more. The deadline is fast approaching.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

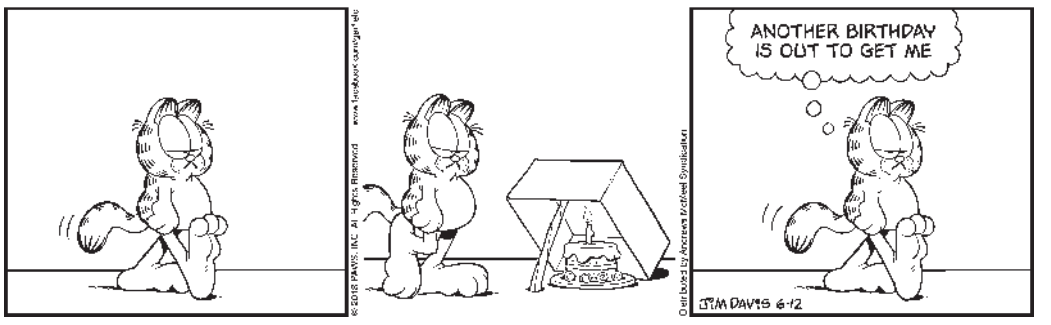
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


SO WHERE ARE WE GOING? I SURE HOPE WE'RE NOT CAMPING AGAIN THIS YEAR.
WELL, WE ARE.
OH, NO! WHY DO WE HAVE TO GO CAMPING?! I HATE CAMPING!
SWATTING MOSQUITOES WHILE LYING FROZEN AND CRAMPED ON BUMPY ROCKS, WITH NO TV AND ONLY CANNED FOOD TO EAT. IS NOT MY IDEA OF A GOOD TIME!
THAT'S WHY WE BROUGHT BUG SPRAY.
LOOK, JUST LET ME OUT HERE, OK? I'LL HITCH HOME AND SEE YOU WHEN YOU GET BACK. ALL RIGHT?

Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

HAS KATY BEEN WATCHING ANIMAL PLANET?
SHE HAS. WHY?
SHE WAS NARRATING HER DAY, EARLIER.
LIKE SHE'S ON A NATURE DOC OR SOMETHING.
THE ALPHA FEMALE STUDIES HER WEAKER, DULLER PACK MATE.
GRR.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

WHAT ARE YOU WRITING?
IT'S A LOVE BALLAD. I'M HOPING MAYBE BON JOVI WILL BUY IT.
HOW COME?
IT'S ABOUT AN OUTLAW WHO HIJACKS A STAGECOACH FULL OF HAIRSPRAY.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

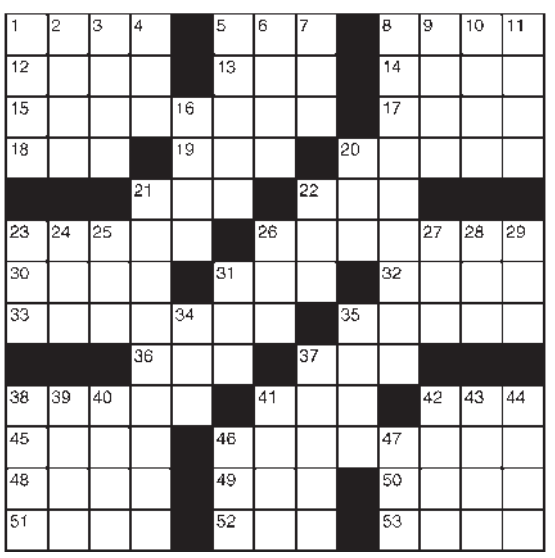
ACROSS
1 Half quart
5 Sphere
8 Frozen desserts
12 Scent
13 Standard
14 DEA agent
15 Final demands
17 La Scala solo
18 Deli bread
19 Hosp. sections
20 Plant firmly
21 Former flier
22 Music's Yoko
23 Cranial cavity
26 Hardly luxurious
30 Bedouin
31 Feedbag morsel
32 Related
33 Compactness
35 Emporium
36 Nanny's charge
37 Goat's plaint
38 Disdain
41 Cowboy's sweetie
42 Martini liquor
45 Mater lead-in
46 Italian omelet
48 Castle defense
49 Director Howard
50 Radiator sound
51 Sicilian spouter
52 Get older
53 "May It Be" singer

DOWN
1 Serve beer
2 Without acting
3 Memo
4 Prefix with athlete
5 Dizzying designs
6 "Phooey!"
7 Bikini half
8 Beloved woman
9 Sugar or starch, for short
10 One of HOMES
11 Large amount
16 GI dining hall
20 Disney deer
21 Underlying rock layers
22 Select, with "for"
23 Blue
24 Rage
25 Indian bread
26 Utter
27 Ring decision
28 Vacuum's lack
29 Away from SSW
31 Mel of Cooperstown
34 Charged bit
35 Pretzel seasoning
37 New England state
38 "Ditto"
39 Coagulate
40 Yemen neighbor
41 Pirate's drink
42 Profit
43 Teeny
44 Houston org.
46 Monk's title
47 Common title start

Solution time: 24 mins.

A	P	R	■	■	A	P	T	■	T	W	I	G
C	L	E	O	■	A	A	H	■	W	A	V	E
T	E	E	N	■	A	L	I	■	O	R	E	M
S	A	F	E	R	■	M	E	O	W	■	■	■
■	■	■	W	O	E	■	F	R	A	P	P	E
C	A	D	A	I	S	M	■	S	Y	R	U	P
A	W	A	Y	■	P	O	I	■	M	O	P	E
T	O	O	T	S	■	E	L	L	I	P	S	E
A	L	P	I	N	E	■	E	A	R	■	■	■
■	■	■	C	L	A	W	■	B	R	I	S	K
P	E	A	K	■	S	O	T	■	O	D	E	A
E	R	N	E	■	E	V	E	■	R	E	A	L
P	A	N	T	■	■	E	X	■	■	S	S	E

Yesterday's answer 6-12



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kendra Wilkinson, 33; Dave Franco, 33; Scott Thompson, 59; Timothy Busfield, 61.

Happy Birthday: Put some energy into achieving your goals. Taking physical action will be required if you want to exceed expectations. Stay focused on what you know will work, not what someone else suggests. Trust your intelligence to guide you in the right direction. You will discover you have more to offer on your own and, therefore, more to gain. Your numbers are 7, 13, 20, 29, 32, 43, 48.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* You'll learn something if you take part in a community or family event. Listen to people who can offer insight into something that interests you; you will prosper from what you discover. Choose your words carefully when dealing with superiors. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Figure out the best way to progress, and execute your plans with precision. Your ability to adapt as you go will make it that much easier to accomplish your goals. Don't let what others do interfere or distract you. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Control your emotions if you want to avoid making an emotional mistake. Take a step back and avoid making a decision that is likely to end in someone else's favor. Don't argue with anyone in a position of authority. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Firm up and get moving. Knowing what you want will give you the advantage you need when faced with competition or opposition. An unusual opportunity that comes from an unexpected source will change your belief in someone or something. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Your enthusiasm will have a magical effect on others. Help a cause, but avoid taking jobs that don't utilize your skills. You'll do best if you delegate trivial jobs to others and focus on coordinating and presenting your vision. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Nothing will be as it appears. Don't make a foolish mistake trusting someone who talks big but does little. Bring about the changes that will benefit you, and encourage others to support your decisions and your actions. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* A day trip, business meeting or picking up information or skills that will benefit you in finding a new way to bring in more cash should be implemented. Don't let someone hold you back or put unnecessary demands on you. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Test your skills. Make changes that will give you the opportunity to present what you have to offer to someone in a position to help you get ahead. Mentoring, an internship or an apprenticeship will lead to something unexpected. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Be careful what you allude to being able to do. Making a promise that isn't feasible will make you look bad and could end up costing you your reputation, status or position. Proof will speak louder than words. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* People you feel responsible for will put demands on you. Before you are too accommodating, consider how to even things up by asking for something in return. Teaching the value of time and money will improve your relationships. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Don't feel you have to go overboard to make an impression. Your energy will be much better spent making changes that you can do yourself. Use your knowledge and handiwork to help you get things done within budget. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Your desire to be unique can lead to lofty ideas that will end up being way too expensive or cause a rift with someone you share expenses with. Look for opportunities that are reasonable. Bring in cash; don't dole it out. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are opportunistic, expressive and impressionable. You are original and charming.

(To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.)

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

7	9			8			6	4
	2			4			7	
			5		2			
		6				5		
8	5						3	1
		3				9		
			8		4			
	7			6			5	
5	3			2			4	8

Difficulty Level ★★ 6/12

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

3	2	7	6	9	1	4	5	8
5	1	4	7	8	3	9	6	2
8	6	9	2	5	4	7	3	1
7	4	1	9	3	6	2	8	5
6	5	8	4	2	7	1	9	3
2	9	3	8	1	5	6	7	4
4	7	5	1	6	8	3	2	9
9	3	6	5	4	2	8	1	7
1	8	2	3	7	9	5	4	6

Difficulty Level ★ 5/1

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

RAINFOREST SHOWER HEADS **Solution: 6 letters**

E	C	R	A	L	U	C	R	I	C	N	H	E	H	H
M	H	U	E	I	N	A	E	L	C	S	R	O	M	E
O	S	O	S	A	D	E	L	T	A	A	S	R	G	I
R	T	P	R	T	L	L	A	W	U	E	O	G	E	G
H	E	N	R	G	O	I	X	Q	H	T	V	N	N	H
C	L	W	R	A	S	M	S	S	S	N	A	I	T	T
C	P	O	D	A	Y	N	I	T	K	E	L	T	L	A
M	O	D	E	R	N	N	A	Z	I	I	L	T	E	B
B	R	A	S	S	I	I	T	H	E	C	A	E	S	S
N	D	H	I	F	E	N	M	C	W	I	F	S	M	T
K	E	T	G	Z	U	T	J	A	O	F	R	P	A	Y
S	S	O	N	O	S	T	E	E	L	F	E	O	E	L
I	M	O	M	I	E	S	T	I	F	E	T	W	R	I
R	R	M	M	R	I	N	S	E	L	M	A	E	T	S
B	A	S	E	L	G	N	A	E	D	I	W	R	S	H

© 2012 Andrews McMeel Syndication www.wonderword.com 6/12

Angles, Arms, Bath, Brass, Brisk, Bronze, Ceiling, Chrome, Circular, Clean, Customize, Delta, Design, Downpour, Droplets, Efficient, Finishes, Fits, Flow, Gentle, Hansgrohe, Height, Hose, Jets, Laminar, Mist, Modern, Moen, Mount, Oval, Power, Realistic, Relax, Rinse, Setting, Smooth, Spray, Square, Steam, Steel, Storm, Streams, Stylish, Wall, Wash, Waterfall, Wide

Yesterday's Answer: Andrea Bocelli

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volumes 37 through 51, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper for more news, value and information.
SUBSCRIBING MEANS MORE
Please call 235-NEWS.

LOOKING TO HIRE

Electricians and Field Electrician Engineers

Starting from $12-18/hr

Bring resume to Marianas Business Plaza (3rd floor – 309)
For more information, contact Alan at 285-5499 or 234-4800

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

MVA IS HIRING!!!!!!!!

Opening Date: 06/01/18 **Closing Date: 06/15/18**

JVA#18-001: **Community Projects Coordinator I**
Location: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

JVA#18-002: **Media Marketing Specialist I**
Location: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

JVA#18-003: **Procurement Officer**
Location: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

Interested persons may contact the Marianas Visitors Authority Office at (670) 664-3200/01 or visit www.mymarianas.com for more details.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 18-052

Opening Date: Monday, June 11, 2018
Closing Date: Friday, June 22, 2018

Human Resource Manager

Duties: Under the direct supervision of the Executive Director or his/her designee. Supervises staff to include: prioritizing and assigning work; conducting performance evaluations; ensuring staff is trained; ensuring that employees follow policies and procedures; maintaining a healthy and safe working environment; and, making hiring, termination, and disciplinary recommendations. Manages the functions of assigned unit/designated program, which includes planning, coordinating, administering, and evaluating programs, projects, processes, procedures, systems, standards, and/or services. Ensures compliance with organizational and Federal, Commonwealth, and local laws, regulations, codes, and/or standards. Serves as a liaison with internal departments, officials, agencies, partners, contractors and other external organizations, groups and representatives. Serves as a representative at a variety of meetings, public events, on committees, and/or other related events regarding services, programs, or projects. Researches, reviews, interprets, analyzes and prepares a variety of information, data, and reports; provides quality control and assurance of assigned function and services; recommends and implements policies and procedures to improve operational effectiveness and provide enhancements to services or programs. Manages assigned budget and provides input to the annual budget development process. Prepares cost estimates and budget recommendations. Monitors, administers and controls budget allocation and authorizes expenditures. Assists in planning, developing, recommending and implementing goals, objectives, policies, procedures and standards. Coordinates operational and program efforts in alignment with goals and objectives of assigned area of responsibility. Planning, overseeing and providing human resources operations, support and activities; Providing coaching and recommendations to management and staff regarding personnel needs and issues; Working with upper management and legal counsel regarding disciplinary actions; Providing guidance and support related to employment processes and programs. Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

LOCATION: **Administration, Saipan**, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: $56,439.00 to $74,470.00 per annum (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience, Exempt)
CONTRACT: Two (2) Years, subject to renewal
POSITION(S): One (1)

Minimum Requirements: Bachelor's Degree in a directly related field and 5 years of professional experience in the assigned field including 2 years of leadership experience. Knowledge of: Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local laws, codes, regulations and/or ordinances; Managerial principles, practices and techniques; Principles, practices, methods and techniques of assigned operational area or function; Budgeting principles; Contract administration principles; Customer service principles; Modern office equipment; Modern office technology. Skills in: Interpreting and applying applicable laws, codes, regulations and standards; Managing, monitoring, training and evaluating staff; Prioritizing, coordinating, allocating resources and assigning work; Planning, organizing and implementing programs and services; Establishing goals, objectives and standards; Recommending, developing and implementing policies and procedures; Providing technical review, expertise and oversight related to assigned area; Monitoring and implementing quality, compliance and/or safety procedures and processes; Preparing contract documents; Providing contract administration; Researching and analyzing information; Resolving problems and conflict; Developing budget and monitoring compliance; Preparing reports, presentations and other related materials; Delivering presentations and training; Overseeing customer service delivery; Serving as a liaison and technical representative of assigned area; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Applicants may be tested. Subject to pre-employment drug test.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer
P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A. • Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32 Fax (670) 235-5131

PLACE YOUR ADVERT HERE!
For opportunities contact us at
235-6397

WHATZIT Solution: Overexposed

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

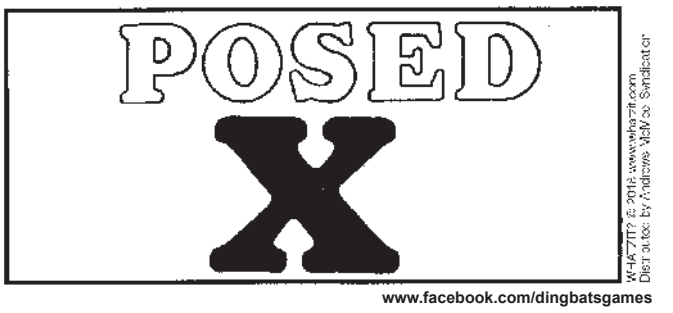
Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

Scherzer takes rare loss, Richard flirts with no-no

AP

San Diego Padres starting pitcher Clayton Richard delivers during the first inning of a baseball game against the Miami Marlins, Sunday, June 10, 2018, in Miami.

WASHINGTON (AP)—Brandon Crawford went 4 for 4 with a two-run homer, and the San Francisco Giants dealt Max Scherzer his first loss in more than two months, defeating the Washington Nationals 2-0 on Sunday.

After Pablo Sandoval walked leading off the fourth, Crawford homered into the second deck in right for his eighth of the season. He singled in the first and doubled in the sixth and eighth innings. Since May 1, Crawford is hitting an MLB-best .439 (58-for-132) and has raised his average to .338.

Scherzer (10-2) had won nine straight decisions since his last loss on April 4. He allowed two runs and four hits while striking out nine over seven innings.

Derek Holland (4-6), a 10-year veteran facing Washington for the first time, allowed three hits and two walks in five innings as five pitchers combined for the three-hitter. Hunter Strickland pitched the ninth for his 13th save.

Padres 3, Marlins 1

In Miami, Clayton Richard became the latest pitcher to flirt with the first no-hitter in San Diego Padres' history, losing his bid with two outs in the seventh inning against the Miami Marlins.

The Padres are the only team in the majors that has never thrown a no-hitter. They have played 7,881 games since starting out in 1969. Last month, Jordan Lyles was perfect for 7 1/3 innings until Colorado's Trevor Story singled. In April, Tyson Ross didn't give up a hit until Arizona's Christian Walker doubled on a ball misplayed by center fielder Franchy Cordero.

Mets 2, Yankees 0

In New York, Seth Lugo (2-1) pitched six dominant innings in a stellar spot start, Todd Frazier hit a two-run homer off Luis Severino (9-2), and the New York Mets snapped an eight-game skid.

Frazier went deep for the second consecutive night to help the Mets prevent a Subway Series sweep at Citi Field.

Indians 9, Tigers 2

In Detroit, Corey Kluber continued his dominance of the American League Central, allowing two runs in eight innings as the Cleveland Indians topped the Tigers.

Kluber (10-2) is 5-0 with a 0.76 ERA in five starts against division rivals this season and has won his last 11 decisions against teams from the AL Central. He allowed five hits and struck out eight without walking a batter.

Mariners 5, Rays 4

In St. Petersburg, right fielder Mitch Haniger threw out Johnny Field at the plate to end the game, and the Seattle Mariners held off the Tampa Bay Rays for their 17th win in 22 games. Field tried to score from first on a two-out, bloop single by Carlos Gomez.

Astros 8, Rangers 7

In Arlington, George Springer scored the tiebreaking run in the ninth inning on a balk after homering on the first pitch, and the Houston Astros swept their Texas rivals in a four-game series for the first time, beating the Rangers despite blowing a six-run lead.

Dodgers 7, Braves 2

In Los Angeles, Max Muncy homered in his third straight game, Logan Forsythe and Enrique Hernandez also connected, and the Dodgers beat the Atlanta Braves.

Muncy has 12 home runs, matching the total he hit last year while spending the whole season at Triple-A Oklahoma City.

White Sox 5, Red Sox 2

In Boston, Reynaldo Lopez pitched into the seventh inning, Daniel Palka had a two-run double and the Chicago White Sox beat the Red Sox.

Lopez (2-4) gave up two runs and six hits while striking out six with three walks in 6 1/3 innings to improve to 1/3 in eight road starts this season.

Blue Jays 13, Orioles 3

In Toronto, Curtis Granderson had four hits and a career-high six RBI, Marco Estrada pitched six innings to snap an eight-start winless streak and the Blue Jays routed the struggling Baltimore Orioles to complete a four-game sweep.

Reds 6, Cardinals 3

In Cincinnati, center fielder Billy Hamilton made a bunch of key defensive plays and the Reds ended their 13-game losing streak to St. Louis, beating the Cardinals. Hamilton threw out two runners, then made outstanding catches against the wall in the eighth and ninth innings. He also tripled and scored twice.

Phillies 4, Brewers 3

In Philadelphia, Zach Eflin tied his career high with nine strikeouts over six innings and the Phillies snapped a four-game losing streak by holding off the Milwaukee Brewers.

Twins 7, Angels 5

In Minneapolis, Jake Cave had a career-high three hits, including a home run, and the Minnesota Twins held on to beat the Los Angeles Angels.

Pirates 7, Cubs 1

In Chicago, Josh Harrison led off the game with a home run and Gregory Polanco hit a bases-loaded triple, leading Ivan Nova and the Pittsburgh Pirates over the Cubs.

Pittsburgh, which had managed a total of three runs in its previous four road games, ended its losing streak at three.

Diamondbacks 8, Rockies 3

In Denver, Paul Goldschmidt doubled and tripled and had two RBI to finish off a dominating series and the Arizona Diamondbacks earned a victory over the Colorado Rockies.

Athletics 3, Royals 2

In Oakland, Matt Chapman homered leading off the eighth, moments after shortstop Marcus Semien's defensive gem, and the Athletics beat the Kansas City Royals.

Stephen Piscotty and Jonathan Lucroy both drove in runs for the A's, who squandered numerous scoring chances before Chapman came through with a solo home run off Royals reliever Jason Adam (0-1).

Woods remains an enigma entering US Open

NEW YORK (AP)—His irons are sublime, his driver for the most part long and straight.

If we've learned anything from his latest comeback, Tiger Woods can still putt a bit, too.

A decade ago that would have made him the overwhelming pick to win the U.S. Open. Heck, a decade ago he won the U.S. Open basically on one leg for what, incredibly enough, was his last major championship win.

But as Woods docks his yacht near Shinnecock Hills this week, he's still a golfing enigma of sorts. His scores are decent, if not spectacular, but he's yet to win and has only been in serious contention once in nine tournaments this year.

Is the real Tiger finally back?

The answer to that question may be that no one has an answer to that question. And that might include Woods himself, who must still have trouble reminding himself he's only the No. 80 player in the world.

Everything looks good. Everything—including the massive crowds that follow him everywhere—has the feel of the old Tiger. Someone who saw Woods practicing at Shinnecock last month described his ball striking as "mouthwatering," and Woods himself says he's hitting it as well as he can remember.

Something, though, is missing. So far this isn't the Tiger of old in the most important way imaginable for the greatest player of his time—he isn't winning.

It might be age—Woods is in great shape for 42 but the noticeably thinning hair gives away the fact he's been playing professional golf for the better part of a quarter century and the nerves might not be what they once were. It might be something psychological, though Woods keeps his inner thoughts so close that no one really knows what goes on inside his head.

It might be that players don't lie down in front of him anymore, or that many are too young to even understand just what Tigermania once was.

Or it might just be—and this Tiger fans can only hope for—that this truly is a process and the best may yet be to come this week as an Open as important for his career as any since his win in 2008 at Torrey Pines unfolds on Long Island.

Woods himself gives away few clues to suggest what might unfold at Shinnecock. In his mind he's always just a few putts away from a great round, or one great round away from winning.

"I felt good on basically every facet of the game, and it's weird, not to really mishit a shot today and only shoot 3-under par is just weird, because I played much better than that," Woods said at the Players Championship.

"I've hit it good enough to be right up next to that lead. If I just putt normal, I'm right there," Woods said at Wells Fargo, where he never cracked the top 30 in four days.

Don't bother calling in the shrinks because Woods has always been somewhat in denial when parts of his magical game desert him. It's what helps fuel him for the next day, and gets him up for the next challenge.

But there's wistful thinking, and then there's reality. And the reality is, Woods has floundered pretty much every time he's gotten near the top of the leaderboard over the last few months.

A tee shot into the water at Honda, another tee shot OB at Bay Hill. Three greens missed from the short grass with a wedge in his hands on Sunday at the Players.

The old Tiger didn't make mistakes like that. The old Tiger was so laser focused he could almost will the ball into the hole—and did on the 18th green at Torrey Pines to force a playoff in 2008.

King of Clay: Nadal gets 11th French Open title

PARIS (AP)—In full control of the French Open final, a rather familiar position for him, Rafael Nadal suddenly was worried.

He led by two sets plus a break early in the third, when the middle finger on his racket-wielding left hand was cramping so badly he couldn't straighten it. After serving a fault, Nadal took the unusual step of heading to the sideline in the middle of a game.

"Tough moment," Nadal would say later. "I was very scared."

Up in the stands, Nadal's uncle Toni, his former coach, was nervous, too, "because I thought maybe we can have a problem," he said. "But in the end, it was not too difficult."

It rarely is for Nadal at a place he has lorded over the way no other man ever has at any Grand Slam tournament. Nadal dealt with that ultimately minor inconvenience and claimed his record-extending 11th French Open championship Sunday by displaying his foe-rattling excellence in a 6-4, 6-3, 6-2 victory over No. 7 seed Dominic Thiem.

"There is a reason why he won 11 times here," said Thiem, a 24-year-old Austrian appearing in his first major final. "It's definitely one of the best things somebody ever achieved in sport."

Thiem was on the couch, watching on TV, in 2005, when Nadal earned his first Grand Slam trophy in Paris at age 19. That began a run of four consecutive French Open triumphs through 2008. He added five straight from 2010-14 and now has two in a row.

Throw in three titles at the U.S. Open, two at Wimbledon and one at the Australian Open, and Nadal is up to 17 majors, second among men only to Roger Federer's 20. The two stars have combined to win the past six Slams.

The victory also allowed the 32-year-old Nadal to hold onto the No. 1 ranking, ahead of Federer.

If there were any reason for a bit of intrigue entering Sunday, it was this: Thiem beat Nadal on red clay at Rome in May 2017 and again at Madrid last month.

But those are not quite the same as the French Open, where Nadal is 86-2 for his career.

"I am sure you will win here in the next couple of years," Nadal told Thiem afterward.

AP

Spain's Rafael Nadal serves to Austria's Dominic Thiem during the men's final match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium, Sunday, June 10, 2018 in Paris.

Against many other opponents—maybe any other—Thiem would have made things interesting. He pounded huge serves that topped 135 mph (220 kph)—about 25 mph (40 kph) better than Nadal's fastest—and translated into seven aces but also had five double-faults. He took the biggest of big cuts on groundstrokes, his feet leaving the ground as he threw his whole body into them, as if the very outcome—not of any individual point, but the whole shebang—depended on the strength of that one whip of his white racket. That led to 34 winners (eight more than Nadal) but also 42 unforced errors (18 more than Nadal).

It worked. For a bit.

Until 4-all, 15-all in the opening set, to be precise. Nadal held for 5-4, and Thiem basically handed over the next game -- and the set -- with four mistakes. A volley into the net. A forehand wide. A forehand into the net. A forehand long.

"Terrible misses," Thiem acknowledged.

Just like that, Nadal was off on a five-game burst to lead 3-0 in the second set.

By then, Nadal was finding his spots. One down-the-line forehand winner landed right at the baseline, leaving Thiem sagging his shoulders and muttering. Another forehand winner from Nadal found a corner, and Thiem yelled toward his coach.

It was a cloudy and steamy afternoon, with the temperature at 77 degrees (24 Celsius) and the humidity approaching 70 per cent. Midway through the opening set, Nadal's aqua T-shirt was so soaked with sweat it stuck to him. Those conditions might have contributed to the cramping that affected Nadal about two hours into the final, at 2-1 in the third set.

"I was not able to move the hand, the finger," Nadal said. "I was not (in) control of my finger."

His uncle thought wrapping around Nadal's left forearm was too tight. When he first halted play, Nadal removed that tape, which he said let his circulation improve. At the following changeover, he was given a salt pill by a doctor and had his left forearm massaged by a trainer. After guzzling water during that break, Nadal felt better and was back to playing his unmistakable brand of nearly unbeatable clay-court tennis.

Shortly, he'd be holding the silver trophy, the one he knows so well, and crying.

A few hours earlier, as Nadal and Thiem warmed up, the booming voice of the announcer at Court Philippe Chatrier detailed the bona fides of both. Nadal's introduction included a year-by-year accounting of every time he'd already won the French Open.

The crowd responded at the mention of 2005, initially offering polite applause. It added more voices by the time 2008 rolled around. The crescendo rose to a full-throated roar for 2017.

Go ahead and 2018 to the lengthy list.

"If you tell me seven, eight years ago that I will be here ... having this trophy with me again, I will tell you that is something almost impossible," Nadal said. "But here we are."

Several things to watch as busy NBA offseason begins

CLEVELAND (AP)—The NBA offseason has arrived, which means nothing will happen for the next four months other than a draft, three summer leagues, free agency, the creation of a new schedule, coaching hires, trades, roster reworkings and possibly movement toward letting high school graduates jump directly into the league again.

It all adds up to very little downtime.

There is no shortage of questions about what will happen this summer -- leading off, of course, with yet another decision to be made by LeBron James about his future and where he'll play next season as he resumes his quest for more championships.

Here are some non-James topics heading into the offseason:

KAWHI LEONARD

The mystery of the 2017-18 NBA season is the mystery of the offseason as well. Leonard played in only nine games for the Spurs this season while dealing with a leg injury, the specifics of which are a closely guarded secret even by San Antonio's notoriously tight-lipped standards. He could get a supermax deal, he could get traded, he might still be hurt. But the Spurs—and the league—need answers, because he can change a lot of directions in a hurry.

COACHES

The vacancies in Detroit and Toronto should be filled soon. The Pistons might be best-served to hire Dwane Casey, who led the Raptors to the No. 1 seed in the Eastern Conference this season. This is a crucial hire for the Raptors, since whoever will be calling the shots next season will have a team that should be good enough to contend for the East title.

THE DRAFT

Arizona center Deandre Ayton will likely go No. 1 to Phoenix, which makes sense on a lot of levels. The intrigue really starts there. Does Vlade Divac use the No. 2 overall pick and bring Luka Doncic, the young Slovenian who has been talked about as a can't-miss NBA star for some time, to Sacramento? What does Atlanta do at No. 3? Inevitably, someone will move up on draft night and that probably means an established player (or players) will be on the move.

OFFICIATING

The NBA knows fans, players and coaches aren't thrilled with the level of officiating in the league right now. This will absolutely be a big topic—maybe the primary topi — when the board of governors meet in Las Vegas next month. Also, there will be a challenge-flag-type item tinkered with during summer league games.

THE LAKERS

Magic Johnson and Rob Pelinka should have about $62 million in cap space to go shopping with when free agency opens July 1—including for James, meaning the Lakers could get transformed and become a playoff team again in a hurry.

CHRIS PAUL AND PAUL GEORGE

Again, like so many other topics, the futures of Chris Paul and Paul George will probably have some impact on whatever James decides to do this summer—or vice versa. Paul wants a max contract, and if his hamstring didn't pop late in Game 5 of the Western Conference finals he and the Houston Rockets may very well have been in the NBA Finals. George seemed to be hinting that he could stay in Oklahoma City, but is a Los Angeles native.

THE PELICANS

Yes, the Pelicans. West semi-finalists this season, New Orleans needs to decide what it wants to do with DeMarcus Cousins and Rajon Rondo. The Pelicans have already given coach Alvin Gentry an extension, and keeping either Cousins or Rondo—or both—to play alongside Anthony Davis might make New Orleans a sleeper pick in the West next season.

THE HEAT

Dwyane Wade has been talking about retirement, and there's been no indication yet if he's anywhere near a decision. Miami is in a tough situation on the cash front—Hassan Whiteside, Tyler Johnson, Goran Dragic and James Johnson will make nearly $78 million themselves next season—and the Heat wants to find a way to keep Wayne Ellington.

THE KNICKS

Two questions for the Knicks to figure out: Will they allow David Fizdale the time he needs to build the team he wants? And what will they do with Kristaps Porzingis this season? Give Fizdale time, and he'll win in New York.

CT Law Rollers, 670 Sonics XVIII duel for first finals berth

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The 670 Sonics XVIII's Emmanuel Cobacha, throws up a floater during the first quarter of their playoff game against the Saipan Vegas Extreme in the boys U18 division of the Diaz youth caging last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The CT Law NMI Rollers and 670 Sonics XVIII eliminated their respective playoff foes to set up a battle for the first finals ticket in the boys U18 division of the 2018 Frank M. Diaz Memorial Youth League.

The 670 Sonics XVIII dominated the depleted Saipan Vegas Extreme, 74-43, to advance to the semifinals, while the CT Law NMI Rollers followed suit after outclassing Saipan Vegas Elite, 43-37, last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The CT Law NMI Rollers and 670 Sonics XVIII squared off yesterday afternoon and results of their fight for a seat to the finals were unavailable at press time. The 670 Sonics XVI and Ol'Aces Real Deal met in the other semis pairing.

The 670 Sonics XVIII eased its way to the Final Four after building an early double-digit lead against Saipan Vegas Extreme, which played last weekend's match with a seven-man roster.

The shorthanded lineup made it difficult for Saipan Vegas Extreme to keep up with the 670 Sonics XVIII's offense, as the latter established a 22-9 lead at the end of the first period. Saipan Vegas Extreme was held to four field goals in the opening canto, while Emmanuel Cobacha nearly outgunned their entire opponents after firing 8 points in that period and giving the 670 Sonics XVIII a baker's dozen lead.

The 670 Sonics XVIII's advantage ballooned in the ensuing quarters, as the team had multiple options on offense, while Saipan Vegas Extreme leaned heavily on Duncan Laxa and Anthony Laraja.

By the end of the third period, the 670 Sonics XVIII more than doubled Saipan Vegas Extreme's output, 61-30, en route to the lopsided win in the second playoff match.

In the third playoff game, Matthew Richardson steadied the ship in the fourth quarter to lift the CT Law NMI Rollers to the 6-point win. He had 8 points in the final canto, scoring his squad's first 4 markers and last 4, too.

Angelo Factor made the other 2 points for the CT Law NMI Rollers, which led by double figures in the first half, but lost it when Saipan Vegas Elite mounted a comeback in the second and eventually fell short.

Silver Streak Silver Anniversary Run on June 16

The 25th Annual Tom Picarro Memorial Fun Run will be held on June 16 with a 5am show time and 6am start.

Known as the Silver Streak, the event is a 7K run/walk (4.2miles) which starts and finishes in front of the T Galleria's main entrance fronting Beach Road. The turnaround is at the Quarter Master intersection at the Tank.

The Silver Streak Run will have seven categories: Under 12; Under 19; 20-29; 30-39; 40-49; 50-59, and 60 above for both male and female and overall finisher.

Registration forms are available at T Galleria from 10:30am to 10:30pm at the Concierge. Registration fee is $10 with great raffle prizes and a commemorative T-shirt for the first 200 finishers.

The fun run started 25 years ago to honor the memory of former DFS Saipan president Tom Picarro, who died on June 18, 1993. He was an avid jogger and jogged along Beach Road for many years, becoming a regular sight against the Saipan sunset to commuters going home from work.

In his time with DFS Saipan, Picarro saw DFS Saipan through economic good times during the Japanese tourist boom. He was very active in the business community, serving as past president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce and on the board of the Marianas Visitors Bureau, the predecessor of the Marianas Visitors Authority and other governmental task forces and commissions. Picarro made contributions to the Catholic Church and throughout the years, proceeds of the Silver Streak Run had gone to local Catholic Church charitable organizations.

DFS will retire the Silver Streak on this 25th anniversary and proceeds from the run will go to the Maturana House of Prayer. Eleven members of Picarro's family from New York and Florida will be present in this Saturday's event. ***(PR)***

NMA

From Page 28

including those from the Federated States of Micronesia will touch down at the Saipan/Francisco C. Ada International Airport tomorrow.

Around 200 athletes and officials will join the two-day competition, according to NMA president and local organizing committee head Ramon Tebuteb. The number would have gone up if not for the last-minute cancelation of Kiribati, which failed to secure U.S. visas for its athletes and officials.

Meanwhile, a few side events will take place before the competition kicks off at the Oleai Sports Complex oval.

The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs will host a forum on June 13 from 10am to 1pm at the Guma Higa in Civic Center with a theme on environmental and sustainable youth incentives related to athletics.

The seminar on Hytek—the software used in athletics and other competitions—will also be held on June 13 from 8am to 12nn at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium with OAA taking the lead. There's a coaches seminar, too, and will run until June 15 with both OAA and NMA hosting the event.

A technical official seminar is scheduled for today and tomorrow at the Ada Gym, while Gov. Ralph DLG Torres will be hosting the opening ceremony and welcome dinner for the tournament tomorrow at Surf Club, starting at 5:30pm.

MP

From Page 28

the MP United-Paire duel featured a lot of physical plays, as neither team wanted to give their opponent's an inch, resulting in a scoreless game at the end of the regulation.

Then in the extra time, MP United finally found a way to trick the pesky defense of Paire when Joel Fruit went for a corner kick and Calayag beat all the players who jumped into the play, converting a diving header.

Meanwhile, Matansa had an easier finals win in Division B despite playing with only an 11-man roster.

Amzad Khan, Jacob Montes-Sabino, and Al-Amin Fnu stepped up in the title game to foil Shirley's' bid for an upset. Coming into the winner-take-all finale, Shirley's was hoping to ride on the momentum of its 13-1 stunner against elimination round top finisher Korean Football Association on Saipan.

However, Matansa prevented Shirley's from recording another big win after drawing goals from three different players. Montes-Sabino broke the ice early with his goal in the seventh minute, while Khan and Fnu scored in the 41st and 74th, respectively.

Meanwhile, KFAS saved face after slipping past Sun Palace in the battle for third place, 6-5.

Edwin Kim powered KFAS to a Top 3 finish after making four goals, including the go-ahead in the 75th minute. He knocked in his four goals in succession with the first three posted in the 46th, 51st, and 62nd minute. Oliver Lee registered the two other goals for KFAS in the 16th and 42nd minute.

Guo Ha Hou also had a brace for Sun Palace, lighting up the board in the third minute and the 66th, while Miko Pido, Feng Yu, and Daniel Pablo added one each in the 23rd, 29th, and 34th, respectively.

In the Division A consolation match, TanHoldings blanked the Teen Ayuyus, 5-0.

Joshua De Leon scored a pair for TanHoldings, while Martin Jambor, Mark Eslan and Matthew Epstein chipped in one apiece.

PAIK

From Page 28

offs and boost their chances to earn slots on the North Pacific Team that will compete in the 2018 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji next month.

The CNMI has three other players entered in the boys U14 singles. Andy Kim split his two matches in Group B yesterday, winning over FSM's Johnnyboy Sigrah, 6-0, 6-2, before bowling to Guam and No. 2 Thomas Ysrael, 0-6, 1-6. Isaac Heo was also 1-1 on Day 1, losing to FSM's Deavyn Etscheit, 0-6, 0-6, before beating fellow CNMI player Ruma Lee, 6-3, 6-4. Lee also dropped his opener against No. 4 and Guam's Dakota Gibson, 0-6, 1-6.

In the girls U14 singles, which has two groups, Anika Camacho won her debut after topping FSM's Movida Jerry, 6-2, 6-3, while No. 1 seed Coume Kaga swept Ngelittle Silmai, 6-1, 6-1. Hye Jin Elliot bounced back from her opening loss to FSM's Ridiane Wolphagen (4-6, 4-6) with a 6-2, 6-0 triumph over Camacho.

In other results, Sam Ryu, Malika Miyawaki, and Maria Gregoire got off to a good start in the U16 singles event. Ryu dominated FSM's Jack Jack, 6-1, 6-0, while Miyawaki and Gregoire shut down Guam's Paige Mantanona and Aprile Kim, respectively.

Meanwhile, in the U12 team event, the CNMI Boys clobbered FSM, 3-0, while the CNMI Girls 2 edged FSM Girls 2, 2-1.

FSM Girls 2 took the early lead when Shelly Palsis defeated the CNMI's Dana Lee, 4-6, 6-2, 10-3. However, Ye Jin Son's 6-1, 6-3 triumph over Arthisha Mallarme tied the match, and the former went on to hand the CNMI Girls 2 the win after teaming up with Palau's Galya Mikel in topping the two FSM players, 6-2, 6-0.

In the boys division, the CNMI's David Kwon and Anthony Gregoire were unscathed against FSM. Kwon cruised to a 6-0, 6-1 win over Jeremiah Suliol, while Gregoire had a similar easy win over Israel Apis, 6-0, 6-0. Gregoire and Kwon also blanked the FSM bets in the doubles.

WORLD CUP PREVIEW

Records favor Germany; Mexico, Sweden to stand up

(Editor's Note: Saipan Tribune will run a series of stories leading up to the World Cup 2018 that will be held from June 14 to July 15 in Russia. Today, we are featuring teams in Group F)

MOSCOW (AP)—Which ever group you put Germany in, the defending champions will always be among the favorites. Records speak for the Germans expected outstanding performance in every World Cup—19 appearances out of 21 tournaments, four championships, made it at least in the quarterfinals in the last 16 editions of the event, and the most combined number (12) of finals, runner-up, third place, and semis wins.

With Germany not likely to tarnish its impressive record in the early stage of the tournament in Russia, it's now up to Mexico and Sweden to fight for the remaining berth to the Last 16. South Korea will be on the sidelines, hoping for a respectable showing against its highly favored opponents.

GERMANY

The World Cup holders are in good shape to defend their title after being unbeaten in all games in 2017.

They have already collected a trophy in Russia in the build-up to the World Cup, winning the Confederations Cup in July and using the warm-up tournament to test new options like late developer Lars Stindl.

World Cup qualifying was completed with 10 wins from 10 and a European-record 43 goals.

KEY PLAYER: *Toni Kroos* (Real Madrid)—Germany's new leader, Kroos keeps the side ticking from midfield, where his intelligence, precision, and composition on the ball inspires teammates going forward.

COACH: *Joachim Loew*—Juergen Klinsmann's assistant during the 2006 World Cup, Loew took over after that tournament and has overseen steady progress culminating in the 2014 title.

MEXICO

Mexico has been a regular at the World Cup, but always comes up just short. It has played in the last six World Cups, and was knocked out each time in the round of 16.

Reaching the quarterfinals this time would be seen as a success. The Mexicans have only done that twice—1970 and 1986 when they were host.

Mexico impressed four years ago in Brazil, and was impressive in qualifying this time, doing it with three games to spare ahead of Costa Rica and Panama. Archrival the United States missed out this time. Few tears were shed in Mexico over this.

KEY PLAYER: *Javier Hernandez* (West Ham)—Likely to line up in the front with Jesus Corona and Hirving Lozano.

COACH: *Juan Carlos Osorio*—Known for his detailed planning and quick attacking style, but struggles with self-control and was suspended for this summer's Gold Cup after being sent off at the Confederations Cup.

SWEDEN

Sweden stunned Italy in the playoffs to qualify for its first World Cup finals since 2006 when a tweet was posted by the country's best player: "We are Zweden."

The shadow of Zlatan Ibrahimovic hangs over the national team.

The former Manchester United striker retired from international soccer after last year's European Championship and for a while did not give in to temptations to come out of retirement for one last World Cup? Coach Janne Andersson also shut the door on Ibrahimovic in April. Without Ibrahimovic (now plays for LA Galaxy), Sweden seems more united and well-structured, but he can do things no other Swedish player can.

KEY PLAYER: *Emil Forsberg* (Leipzig)—Has replaced Ibrahimovic as Sweden's inspiration in attack.

COACH: *Janne Andersson*—Took charge following Euro 2016 and has successfully rebuilt the team to be greater than the sum of its parts without Ibrahimovic.

SOUTH KOREA

Every World Cup since 1986 has featured South Korea. This time looks likelier to be a repeat of 2014's meek group-stage exit than 2002's swashbuckling run to the semifinals.

Qualifying was tricky, with a place only secured thanks to a tense 0-0 draw against fellow qualifying contender Uzbekistan on the final day of the Asian group stages, combined with Syria's failure to beat Iran.

Much will depend on a trio of English Premier League players—Tottenham's Son Heung-min, Swansea's Ki Sung-yeung and Crystal Palace's Lee Chung-yong—who bring valuable experience of top-level football.

KEY PLAYER: *Son Heung-min* (Tottenham)—The top-scoring Asian player in Premier League history.

COACH: *Shin Tae-yong*—When defeats to Qatar and China threw South Korea's qualifying campaign into turmoil, the former under-23 team coach was promoted to steady the ship. Has only coached in South Korea and Australia.

FIFA All-TIME RANKINGS

TEAM	RANK	PTS	MP	W	D	L	GS	GA	AV. PTS	APPS
Germany	2	218	106	66	20	20	224	121	2.1	18
Sweden	10	61	46	16	13	17	74	69	1.3	11
Mexico	13	56	53	14	14	25	57	92	1.1	15
South Korea	26	24	21	5	9	17	31	67	0.8	9

MP : Matches played
GS : Goal scored
GA : Goals against
APPS : World Cup appearances (excluding 2018)

Germany VS Mexico	(June 18, 1AM, Moscow)	Germany VS Sweden (June 24, 4AM, Sochi)
Sweden VS S. Korea	(June 18, 10PM, Nizhny Novgorod)	Mexico VS Sweden (June 28, 12AM, Ekaterinburg)
S. Korea VS Mexico	(June 24, 1AM, Rostov-on-Don)	S. Korea VS Germany (June 28, 12AM, Kazan)

SOURCE: FIFA.COM
(Schedule is based on Saipan Time)

Scherzer takes rare loss, Richard flirts with no-no

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune
Sports

King of Clay: Nadal gets 11th French Open title

PAGE 25

MP United, Matansa triumph

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

MP United Football Club and Matansa clinched the title in their respective divisions in the 2018 Spring M-League last Sunday.

Matansa was the first to be crowned champion after shutting down Shirley's FC, 3-0, in the Division B finale at the Koblerville Elementary School Field. In Division A, MP United needed an extra time to pull off a 1-0 triumph over Paire FC at the Hopwood Middle School Field.

Louie Calayag delivered the dagger for MP United, making the goal with just two minutes left in the first half of the overtime.

With the title on the line,

See MP on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Paire Football Club's David Duenas, left, beats MP United's Jonathan Capayas to the ball during the second half of their title game in Division A of the 2018 Spring M-League last Sunday at the Hopwood Middle School Field.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Seung Jin Paik, seen here returning a shot to Richard Steele during the CNMI Junior Tennis Championships at the PIC Saipan courts, went 2-0 in the opening day of the 2018 North Pacific Regional Championships in Guam.

Paik, Kang unbeaten in opening day

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Seeded players Seung Jin Paik and Daniel Kang of the CNMI played true to form after going undefeated in the opening day of the 2018 North Pacific Regional Championships.

The No. 1 seed Paik swept his two matches in Group A of the boys U14 singles event yesterday at the Rick Ninete Tennis Center in Guam. Paik blanked the Federated States of Micronesia's Mofassa Alik, 6-0, 6-0, and completed his impressive showing on Day 1 of the tournament after outclassing Guam's Jacob Jackson, 6-1, 6-2.

Kang, the No. 3 seed in the same age group, duplicated Paik's feat after downing FSM's Aniken Perman in Group C, 6-2, 6-2, and Guam's Aarman Sachdev, 6-3, 6-1. Kang and Paik need to finish in the Top 2 of their respective pools to advance to the play-

See PAIK on Page 26

NMA getting all set for regional track tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Athletics is putting the finishing touches on its preparation for the hosting of the Oceania Micronesian Regional Championships 2018.

Equipment have been unloaded and will be in placed in time for the June 14 to 15 competition, volunteers have been organized, and meetings with officials of the Oceania Athletics Association have taken place to iron out final details for the tournament and other side events.

As for the participating athletes, the CNMI bets had their penultimate training session yesterday, while off-island competitors will start arriving today.

NMA secretary general Robin Sapong said the first batch of athletes and officials will come from Guam, Nauru, and Tinian, while the last wave of delegates (more than 90),

See NMA on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
CNMI runners train at the Oleai Sports Complex oval yesterday in preparation for the Oceania Micronesian Regional Championships 2018 that will be held on June 14 and 15.